JOYRIDE: Make your road trip memorable — in a good way | **Page 39**

express

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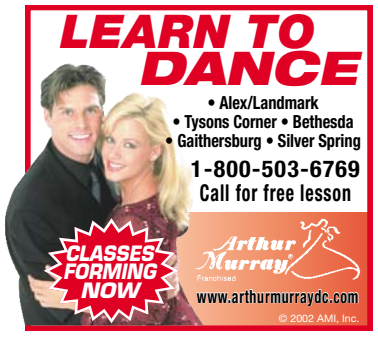


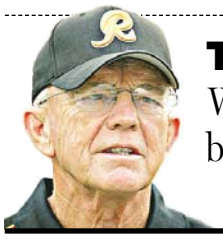
Weekend

TONY GENTILE/AP

Pope Benedict XVI approved the tougher rules.

Gay Priests: Vatican outlines new rules on homosexuality | 8

Bush Plot: Va. man convicted in plan to kill the president | 13



Three Cheers: What Gibbs can be thankful for this season | 15

WeekendPass

Good Times: Rock pixie *Mary Prankster* is hanging up her guitar, but for how long?

>> 19-31

Weather >> Partly Sunny

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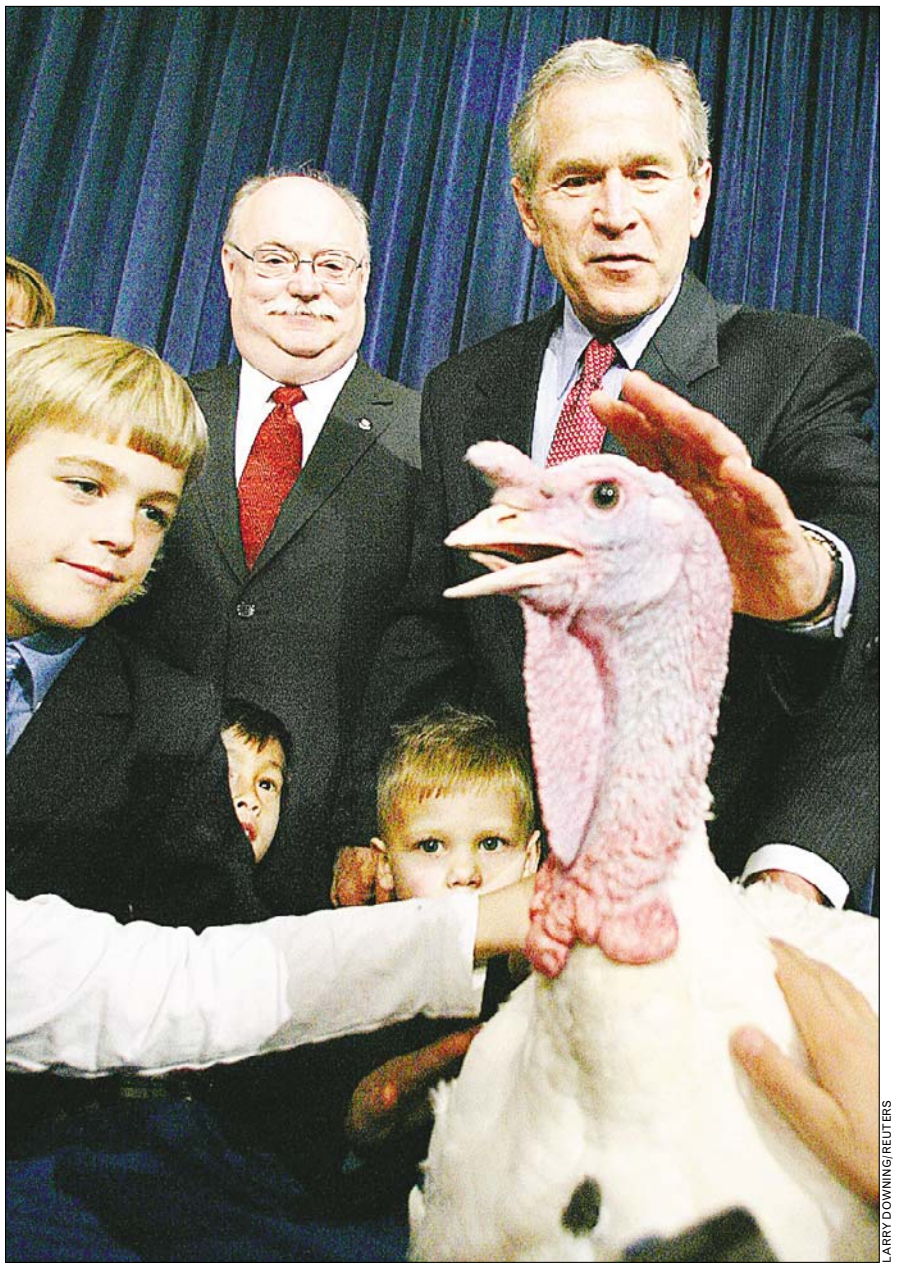

LARRY DOWNING/REUTERS

No Roasting 'Marshmallow'

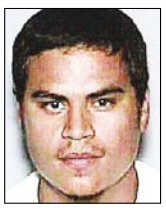
FREEBIRD: President Bush is surrounded by local schoolchildren during the annual pardoning of the National Turkey on Wednesday. After the ceremony, the 35-pound turkey, Marshmallow, and its alternate were flown first-class to southern California, where they'll be part of Disneyland's holiday display and serve as honorary grand marshals for the park's Thanksgiving Day Parade on Thursday.

U.S. Files Charges On Padilla

Indictment does not focus on alleged 'dirty bomb' plot

WASHINGTON | Jose Padilla, a U.S. citizen held in a Navy brig as an enemy combatant for more than three years, was charged Tuesday with being part of a North American terror cell that sent money and recruits overseas to "murder, maim and kidnap."

However, absent from the indictment were the sensational allegations made earlier by top Justice Department officials: that Padilla sought to blow up U.S. hotels and apartment buildings and planned an attack on America with a radiological "dirty bomb."


Padilla

Attorney General Alberto Gonzales wouldn't say why none of those allegations were included in the indictment, commenting only on the charges that were returned by a Miami grand jury against Padilla and four other alleged members of a terror cell.

The charges are the latest twist in a case pitting the Bush administration's claim that the war on terror gives the government extraordinary powers against those who say the government can't be allowed to label Americans "enemy combatants" and hold them indefinitely without charges. By charging Padilla, the administration is seeking to avoid a Supreme Court showdown over the issue. MARK SHERMAN (AP)

THANKSGIVING SCHEDULE: Express will not publish on Thursday or Friday. Look for us again Monday morning.

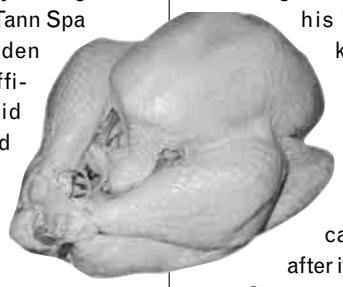
WEAPONS | **Call Him the Hamburglar** A Chicago man was arrested after robbing a bar Monday using a ham sandwich molded in the shape of a gun, CBS News reported. After using the "gun-shaped" object to rob the bar in the Humboldt Park section

of the city, the man fell while trying to escape, officials said. Police were able to catch up with him and discovered his weapon of choice was the sculpted ham sandwich. Brian Latuszek has been charged with robbery. (EXPRESS) EyeOpeners | Page 2

eyeOpeners

SOMETHING'S MISSING

How to Rays Suspicion



Undercover officers noticed something conspicuously absent from a North Myrtle Beach, S.C., tanning salon — tanning beds. The only tanning bed on the property of VIP Tann Spa was found in a wooden box on the porch, officer Jerry Miller said Thursday. Miller said the so-called tanning salon was actually a very different kind of business: Three employees and two customers were charged with prostitution and related charges after the undercover visit last month. The undercover officer found makeshift beds and other evidence people were being paid for sex, Miller said. Investigators have closed the salon. (AP)

SACRIFICE

Something to Really Be Thankful For

An elderly Northlake, Ill., couple was hospitalized Sunday afternoon after being rescued from their burning car by a man who used his Thanksgiving turkey to break through the windows. Mark Copsy said he rushed to help John and Juliana Brani when he saw their car filling with smoke after it crashed into a curb. Copsy couldn't open the door and couldn't break the windows with his hands or feet, he said, so the 20-pound frozen turkey had to do. Police and others who arrived at the scene helped pull the elderly couple from the car. On Tuesday they were reported to be in critical condition. (AP)

TIM HYNDS/AP

ADVICE

Case in Point

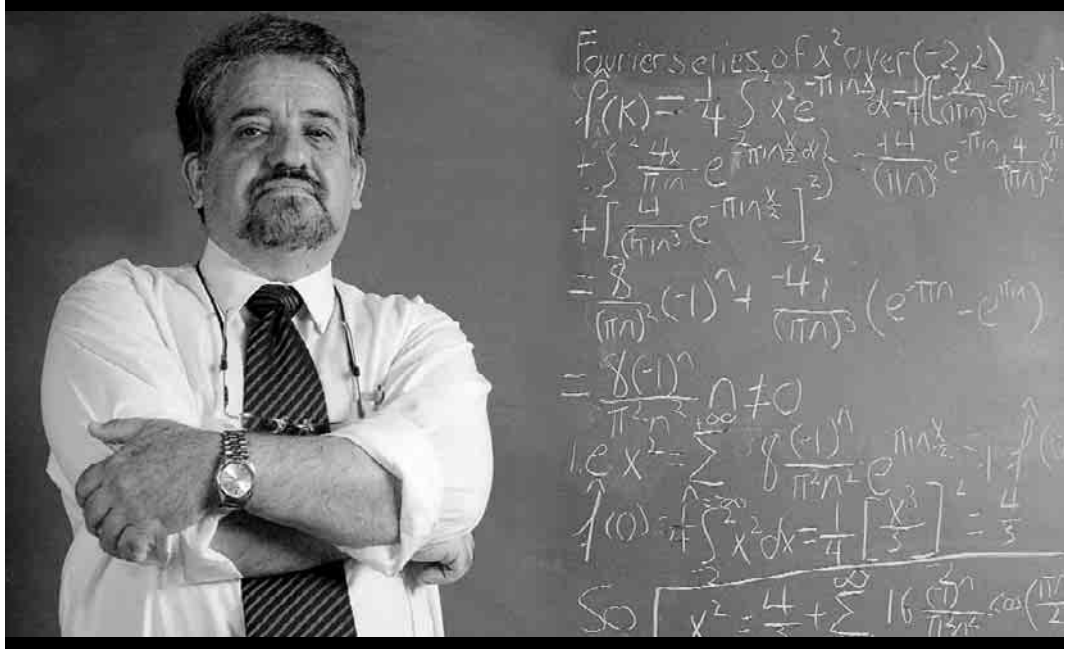
Traffic safety warnings are all well and good, but nothing gets the point across like a vivid, visual reminder — roadkill, for instance. If you were driving on Interstate 29 in North Sioux City, S.D., on Monday, and happened to miss the sign advising "Be Alert, Watch for Deer on Road," there was also this dead whitetail buck on the shoulder — evidence that, for one deer and driver, the notice was a little too late. (EXPRESS)

DUE PROCESS

This Isn't the Way We Do Show-and-Tell

An Elizabeth, Pa., elementary school principal resigned last week after parents denounced her for parading an 8-year-old girl from class to class after a classmate falsely accused her of stealing $5. Principal Marlene Whitby took the accused girl room to room, calling her a liar and thief. The other child later recanted the story, and Whitby hadn't verified the theft accusation by checking a school bus video or talking to the bus driver involved. Before resigning, the principal had been suspended because of the incident. (AP)

Learn from a Master.



Prof. Abe Eftekhari is an author with five patents, an MS in nuclear Physics, another MS in Nuclear Engineering and a PhD in Computational Science. He is the head of the Computer Science Department at Southeastern University and believe it... he can teach you how to solve this equation.

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13.7 **The amount of turkey,** in pounds, that a typical American eats each year, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. The average citizen also consumes 4.7 pounds of sweet potatoes.

Nation

Guilty Plea In Teacher Sex Case

Fla. woman admits to having affair with 14-year-old student

TAMPA, FLA. | A female teacher pleaded guilty Tuesday to having sex with a 14-year-old student, avoiding prison as part of a plea agreement.

Debra Lafave, 25, whose sensational case made tabloid headlines, will serve three years of house arrest and seven years' probation. She pleaded guilty to two counts of lewd and lascivious battery.

The former Greco Middle School reading teacher apologized during the hearing, saying "I accept full responsibility for my actions."

Lafave

The boy told investigators the two had sex in a classroom at the school, located in Temple Terrace near Tampa, in her Riverview town house and once in a vehicle while his 15-year-old cousin drove them around.

The boy told investigators Lafave told him her marriage was in trouble and that she was aroused by the fact that having sex with him was not allowed. He said he and Lafave got to know each other on their way back from a class trip to SeaWorld Orlando in May 2004. MITCH STACY (AP)

HOLIDAY TRAVEL | THE WAITING GAME

JOHN BAZEMORE/AP

TAKE A SEAT: Demaine Williams, 5, rides on a luggage cart at Hartsfield Jackson Atlanta International Airport in Atlanta on Tuesday, as he and his family return home to Nassau, Bahamas. Airport officials expected some 285,000 people to pass through Hartsfield Jackson on Tuesday.

No Immediate Ruling for DeLay

Ex-House majority leader asks Texas judge to dismiss charges

AUSTIN, TEXAS | Hoping to regain his post as House majority leader when Congress reconvenes in January, Rep. Tom DeLay asked a judge Tuesday to throw out the campaign-finance case against him.

However, the judge said that the Republican congressman will have to wait until at least December for a decision, and that the conspiracy and money-laundering case would probably not go to trial before the first of the year.

DeLay and two Republican fundraisers are accused of illegally funneling $190,000 in corporate donations to GOP candidates for the Texas Legislature. The direct use of corporate money for political purposes is illegal in Texas.

DeLay attorney Dick DeGuerin argued that the conspiracy charges were based on a law that was not even on the books when the alleged conspiracy happened.

But prosecutor Rick Reed disputed that, saying that the Legislature was just clarifying the law in 2003 and that state law has long defined conspiracy as an agreement to commit any felony.

DeLay

DeLay wants the charges dismissed or resolved in his favor by January. Under House rules, he was forced to give up his leadership post after he was charged with a felony. But he could regain it if he is cleared before Congress returns.

However, Judge Pat Priest said he wants to read written arguments from both sides before making his ruling. KELLEY SHANNON (AP)

HEARSAY | SHUTTLE

"The cracks we found ... are interesting. We're still in the process of understanding what that means."

—NASA'S JOHN CHAPMAN ON THE AGENCY'S PROBE INTO FOAM LOSSES ON SHUTTLES DISCOVERY AND COLUMBIA.

Groups Seek to End Mass. Gay Marriage

BOSTON | Backers of a proposed constitutional amendment to put a stop to gay marriage in Massachusetts said Tuesday they have gathered almost twice the number of signatures needed to put it on the ballot in 2008.

Beyond the signatures, the proposal needs to be approved by two successive sessions of the state Legislature before it can be placed before voters.

The Massachusetts Family Institute and its online counterpart, voteonmarriage.org, said they will submit over 120,000 signatures before Wednesday's 5 p.m. deadline.

The measure needed the support of 65,825 registered voters.

The proposed amendment seeks to undo a 2003 ruling by Massachusetts' highest court that said gays are entitled to marry.

In May 2004, the nation's first state-sanctioned gay marriages began taking place, and thousands of same-sex couples have since tied the knot. (AP)

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Nation

$18.5B **The amount** the National Flood Insurance Program can now borrow from the Treasury each year, thanks to a new law enacted Monday.

CDC Seeks New Quarantine Rules

Overhaul could slow spread of diseases like bird flu, officials say

ATLANTA | Federal health officials are seeking to update quarantine regulations, hoping changes such as easier access to airline passenger lists could better protect Americans from foreign infectious diseases, including bird flu.

The proposed changes, announced Tuesday by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, include easier CDC access to airline and ship passenger lists, a clearer appeals process for people subjected to quarantines, and explicit authority to offer vaccinations and medical treatment to quarantined people.

The changes are part of a multi-pronged attempt to guard against infectious agents from abroad. In the past 1½ years, the CDC also has increased the number of quarantine stations at airports, ship ports and land-border crossings from eight to 18.

CDC officials say federal quarantine and contact-tracing regulations are antiquated. This is the first substantial overhaul of such regulations in at least 25 years, they said.

One proposal would require airlines and cruise lines to maintain passenger and crew lists and submit them electronically to CDC upon request. The measure could cost as much as $108 million a year for airlines and $800,000 for cruise lines, according to one government estimate. MIKE STOBBE (AP)

ANIMAL WATCH | PORKER UP

LISA DEJONG/THE FLINT JOURNAL/AP

LIBRARY LOVE: Principal Nancy Harrison gives a baby pig a kiss, part of a bet with students in Fenton Township, Mich., on Monday. Students had to collect 1,000 books for their new library to arrange the smooch. They brought in 3,000.

Lawyer: Pa. Girl Had No Role in Killings

LANCASTER, PA. | A 14-year-old girl who ran off with her boyfriend after he allegedly gunned down her parents did not know that he was going to kill them, her lawyer said Tuesday.

"All she is, is a witness. And a victim to the extent that her parents were killed," the attorney, Robert Beyer, said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press.

Beyer spoke out a day after prosecutors said Kara Borden had fled willingly with David Ludwig. He said Borden had no role in the shootings of Michael and Cathryn Borden inside their Lititz home on Nov. 13.

"It's Ludwig's case, not hers," Beyer said. He declined to discuss the case further. (AP)

In Brief

ATLANTA

Plea Deal Could Have Averted Court Rampage, Lawyer Says

A courthouse rampage that led to the deaths of a judge and three others could have been avoided if a tentative plea bargain in the shooting suspect's rape case had not fallen through, a defense lawyer said. Brian Nichols' lawyer in the rape case, Barry Hazen, said Monday he is "100 percent confident" the March 11 rampage would not have happened had the plea deal been approved at a hearing the month before. (AP)

Nichols

LAWRENCE, KAN.

University to Offer Class on Intelligent Design Debate

Creationism and intelligent design are going to be studied at the University of Kansas, but not in the way advocated by opponents of the theory of evolution. A course being offered next semester by the university's religious studies department is titled "Special Topics in Religion: Intelligent Design, Creationism and other Religious Mythologies." "Intelligent design is mythology. It's not science," said Paul Mirecki, department chairman. (AP)

PORTERVILLE, CALIF.

Police Probe Death of Pastor Awaiting Rape Trial

A clergyman awaiting trial on charges of raping two teenage sisters plunged 400 feet to his death in Sequoia National Park, and federal authorities were investigating Tuesday whether he fell, jumped or was pushed. The body of the Rev. Santos Teixeira was discovered Sunday after one of his parishioners reported the death, said park spokeswoman Alexandra Picavet. (AP)

NASA Hits Fiscal Trouble

→ A large deficit in NASA's troubled shuttle program threatens to seriously delay and possibly cripple President Bush's space exploration initiative. | **Today, Page A1**

IN The Washington Post

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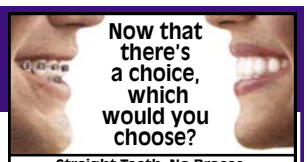

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$3M | **The amount a jury awarded** Tuesday to a blind woman who was fired from her job as director of Pennsylvania's agency for the blind and visually impaired in 2003. Christine L. Boone claimed she was discriminated against because of her disability.

MANUEL BALCE CENETA/AP

"We are not kicking people out into the street," FEMA's R. David Paulison said.

FEMA Gives Reprieve to Evacuees

WASHINGTON | Stung by charges it is pushing hurricane victims out before the holidays, FEMA extended its hotel housing program Tuesday by a month in 10 states that have received victims of Katrina and Rita.

Evacuees in those states — Texas, Louisiana, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Alabama, California, Tennessee, Arkansas and Nevada — now have until Jan. 7 before the Federal Emergency Management Agency stops paying their hotel bills. The deadline is shorter — Dec. 15 — in all other states, said FEMA acting director R. David Paulison.

Last week, FEMA set a Dec. 1 deadline to stop hotel payments everywhere but Louisiana and Mississippi. (AP)

After Katrina, a Shaky Thanksgiving

Holidays are grim for Gulf residents, many still without homes

NEW ORLEANS | Debbie Shifter faces the daunting task of whipping up Thanksgiving dinner for 18 in the tiny kitchen of her FEMA trailer.

Shifter, who lives in Bay St. Louis, Miss., had to drive 45 minutes to find a Wal-Mart that survived Hurricane Katrina. Downsizing the ingredients to fit her compact oven, she will serve a 13-pound turkey instead of the usual 20-pounder. Because of a lack of counter space, she will do the chopping and dicing on two wooden TV trays in her living room.

Guests will eat outside at a plastic table on her lawn, or in shifts at the kitchen table. Dinner will be served on paper plates with plastic utensils. "We done lost everything we owned, just about — except for us," she said.

For many people across the hurricane-stricken Gulf Coast, this is going to be a grim Thanksgiving. But some hope the holiday season will help people in this hurricane-ravaged region reset their moral compass.

CHUCK BURTON/AP

STUFFED: Justin Brand spreads a final seasoning on turduckens, a famous Louisiana specialty that is a turkey stuffed with a chicken and a duck, in Gretna, La., Sunday.

"We need to be back with our families to give that good Southern hug," said Glenn Mistich, a butcher who supplies the famous Louisiana Thanksgiving specialty known as turducken: a turkey stuffed with a duck stuffed with a chicken.

When Katrina hit, the refrigerators went out at his shop in the suburb of Gretna, spoiling 4,000 turduckens, 3,800 boned chickens and about 700 stuffed chickens.

With his poultry supplier under water, he had birds shipped in from Houston and got his turducken assembly line fired up again. He was rushing to fill orders this week.

Volunteers, celebrities, churches and aid organizations are rallying to serve meals to the tens of thousands of displaced and penniless victims.

"I want to feed those who are homeless, out of work," said Heidi Bruno, a 47-year-old Slidell woman who is homeless herself.

On the weekend after Thanksgiving, she will serve up food at her Pentecostal church. "I don't know what we'll be feeding them," she said, "but it will be hot and a blessing." CAIN BURDEAU (AP)

Koppel's Exit Ends an Era at ABC News

NEW YORK | The Ted Koppel era on ABC's "Nightline" was scheduled to end with his farewell Tuesday night after 25 years of offering a serious alternative to late-night laughs.

"Nightline" will continue Monday with a revamped format and hosts Martin Bashir, Cynthia McFadden and Terry Moran.

The program officially began in March 1980. After Koppel spent several months briefing viewers about the Iranian hostage crisis, ABC put him in that time slot permanently.

Koppel's live interviews were the early drawing card. At the time, with CNN just starting as the only all-news network, it was a novel idea to bring interview subjects together from all over the world.

"Our legacy," Koppel told The Associated Press, "is that a serious news broadcast can be successful on all counts, without catering to anyone's baser instincts. 'Nightline' has made a lot of money. ... But most important to me, it's been successful in not ever having to lower its standards." DAVID BAUDER (AP)

ABC

Ted Koppel on the "Nightline" set in Washington on his final day at ABC.

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World

BERRY GOOD: A cafe in Tokyo has started serving up special berries that make sour desserts sweet, offering dieters the chance to indulge without piling on the calories. The berry, from the Synsepalum dulcificum plant, is known as the "miracle fruit."

In Brief

JERUSALEM

Campaigning Begins as Israelis Agree to March Vote

Ariel Sharon's top allies kicked off their election campaign Tuesday, saying the prime minister's new centrist party would push for a final agreement with the Palestinians and the creation of a Palestinian state alongside Israel. Sharon's new party, formed Monday when the prime minister seceded from the hardline Likud, registered instant support across Israel. Officials said March 28 is the agreed election date. (AP)

CHINA NEWSPHOTO/REUTERS

Buckets of water are stashed in a classroom in Harbin, China, on Tuesday.

BEIJING

City's Water Supply Cut Off Due to Contamination Fears

The northeastern city of Harbin said Tuesday its water system will be shut down for four days to check for contamination from a chemical plant explosion, setting off panic buying of bottled water among its 3 million residents, news reports said. The shutdown was prompted by a Nov. 13 explosion at a petrochemical plant in the nearby city of Jilin that killed five people, the official Xinhua News Agency said. (AP)

KABUL, AFGHANISTAN

U.S. Soldier, Interpreter Die in Roadside Bomb Blast

A roadside bomb tore through an American armored vehicle that was part of a military resupply convoy in southern Afghanistan, killing a U.S. service member and an Afghan interpreter, the military said. The attack on the U.S. troops occurred Tuesday in Uruzgan province, an area racked by Taliban rebel violence, the military said in a statement. (AP)

Suicide Car Bomber Kills 21 in Iraq

Insurgents attack in Kirkuk, fire mortar on ceremony in Tikrit

BAGHDAD, IRAQ | A suicide car bomber killed 21 people in northern Iraq after insurgents lured police to the scene by shooting an officer, officials said. The U.S. command said three more U.S. soldiers have been killed, pushing the American military death toll for the conflict to 2,100.

Elsewhere, insurgents on Tuesday fired a mortar shell at a U.S. ceremony transferring one of Saddam Hussein's palaces in Tikrit to Iraqi control. The shell failed to explode but sent the U.S. ambassador, the top American commander and robed tribal sheiks scurrying for cover as the round whistled overhead.

The suicide bomber struck on a busy commercial street in Kirkuk, a mixed Arab, Kurdish and Turkoman city in an oil-producing region north of Baghdad. About half the dead were police who rushed to the scene after gunmen killed a fellow officer.

In addition to the 21 dead, another 24 people were wounded, according to police Brig. Gen. Sarhad Qader.

The attack was the latest in a wave of spectacular suicide operations that have killed more than 160 Iraqis since Friday. Most of the victims were Shiites.

American military casualty tolls have also been on the rise. In the latest reports, the U.S. command said a soldier was killed Monday by a roadside bomb near Habaniyah, 50 miles west of Baghdad.

Two other soldiers from Task Force Freedom were killed Saturday by small arms fire while on patrol in Mosul, the military said in a statement.

U.S. officials sought to downplay the mortar attack in Tikrit, noting that the lone shell failed to explode or to interfere with the handover.

ROBERT H. REID (AP)

BASSIM DAHAM/AP

KEYED UP: A local official, left, receives a key to Saddam Hussein's former palace in Tikrit from a U.S. soldier. Insurgents later fired a mortar shell on the ceremony.

At risk: Insurgents managed to steal the show during the Tikrit handover ceremony | **Today's Post, A Section**

Report: Bush Eyed Bombing Arab TV

LONDON | A civil servant has been charged under Britain's Official Secrets Act for allegedly leaking a government memo that a newspaper said Tuesday suggested that Prime Minister Tony Blair persuaded President Bush not to bomb the Arab satellite station Al-Jazeera.

The Daily Mirror reported that Bush spoke of targeting Al-Jazeera's headquarters in Qatar when he met Blair at the White House on April 16, 2004. The Bush administration has accused Al-Jazeera of being nothing more than a mouthpiece for anti-American sentiments.

The Daily Mirror attributed its information to unidentified sources. One source, said to be in the government, was quoted as saying that the alleged threat was "humorous, not serious," but the newspaper quoted another source as saying that "Bush was deadly serious, as was Blair."

"We are not interested in dignifying something so outlandish .... with a response," White House spokesman Scott McClellan told The AP in an e-mail. (AP)

UKRAINE | HINDSIGHT

GLEB GARANICH/REUTERS

ONE YEAR ON: President Viktor Yushchenko greets a crowd assembled in Kiev on Tuesday to mark the first anniversary of Ukraine's Orange Revolution.

Vatican Speaks Against Gay Priests

VATICAN CITY | The Vatican is toughening its stand against gay candidates for the priesthood, specifying in a new document that even men with "transitory" homosexual tendencies must overcome their urges for at least three years before entering the clergy.

A long-awaited "Instruction," due to be released next week, was posted Tuesday on the Internet by the Italian Catholic news agency Adista. A church official who has read the document confirmed its authenticity; he asked that his name not be used because the piece has not been published by the Vatican.

Conservative Roman Catholics who have decried the "gay subculture" in seminaries will likely praise the policy because it clarifies what the Vatican expects of seminarians and their administrators.

Critics of the policy warned that, if enforced, it will likely result in seminarians lying about their orientation and will decrease the already dwindling number of priests in the U.S. Estimates of the percentage of gays in U.S. seminaries and the priesthood range from 25 percent to 50 percent, according to a research review by the Rev. Donald Cozzens, an author of "The Changing Face of the Priesthood."

The document from the Vatican's Congregation for Catholic Education says the church deeply respects homosexuals. But it also says it "cannot admit to the seminary and the sacred orders those who practice homosexuality, present deeply rooted homosexual tendencies or support so-called gay culture." (AP)

L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO/AP

The Vatican is soon releasing its orders on gay candidates for the priesthood.

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World

OVERDRIVE: Almost a quarter of male British drivers admit they have been so distracted by billboards of semi-naked models that they veered out of their lane, Reuters reported.

RADU SIGHETI/REUTERS

VICTORIOUS: A crowd in Kibera, Nairobi's largest slum, celebrates the defeat of the proposed changes to Kenya's constitution.

Kenyans Nix New Charter

President admits defeat in key constitution vote

NAIROBI, KENYA | President Mwai Kibaki conceded defeat Tuesday in Kenya's first constitutional referendum since independence, a setback to a leader many believe broke his promises to root out the corruption and autocracy that has plagued this east African nation for decades.

Kenyans rejected the proposed constitution by 57 percent to 43 percent in voting Monday, said Samuel Kivuitu, chairman of the Electoral Commission of Kenya. Because a third of adult Kenyans cannot read, voters cast ballots marked with a banana meaning "yes" and an orange meaning "no."

"Many people rejected the proposed constitution," Kibaki said in an address to the nation. "My government will respect the verdict of the people."

The referendum was cast by critics as a vote of confidence on Kibaki two years before the next presidential race. The campaign was rarely about the provisions of the draft charter, which would have created a prime minister position and decentralized the government.

The referendum followed a bitter campaign that divided the country along ethnic lines and led to the deaths of seven people in clashes. Thousands of opponents danced and sang in the streets of the capital Tuesday, waving oranges to celebrate the victory. TOM MALITI (AP)

European Probe Seeks Data on Suspect Flights

PARIS | The head of an investigation into alleged secret CIA prisons in Eastern Europe said Tuesday he was checking 31 suspect planes that landed in Europe in recent years and was trying to acquire past satellite images of sites in Romania and Poland.

If the European probe uncovers evidence of covert facilities, the potential impact ranges from major embarrassment for the United States to political turmoil in countries that might have participated, even unwittingly.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Swiss senator Dick Marty said the Council of Europe, on whose behalf he was investigating, had a "moral obligation" to look into claims the CIA set up secret prisons on the continent to interrogate al Qaeda suspects.

Allegations the CIA hid and interrogated key al Qaeda suspects at Soviet-era compounds in Eastern Europe were first reported in The Washington Post on Nov. 2. The paper did not name the countries involved. JAN SLIVA (AP)

Bosnian Leaders Forge New Accord

WASHINGTON | Leaders of Bosnia's three major ethnic groups have reached an accord designed to unify the Balkan country by remaking the government's constitution a decade after a bloody civil war. The agreement boosts Bosnia's prospects for joining the European Union.

The accord, coming a day after the 10th anniversary of the Dayton accords that ended the three-year war, marks a major step in binding the wounds left by what was Europe's worst fighting since World War II. The conflict killed 260,000 people and drove 1.8 million from their homes. (AP)

World

Merkel Takes Over Chancellery

After political turmoil, German lawmakers OK first female leader

BERLIN | Conservative Angela Merkel took power Tuesday as Germany's first female chancellor and its first leader to grow up behind the Iron Curtain, saying the public was eager for the government to get to work after six months of political turmoil.

But the 51-year-old former scientist will have a tough job turning around Europe's biggest economy after years of stagnation. In a potential sign of trouble ahead, more than 50 members of Merkel's unwieldy 448-lawmaker coalition voted against her Tuesday. Still, the strength of her party's alliance with the left-wing Social Democrats allowed her to win easily in the lower house, or Bundestag.

"Expectations are very high among people in this country that problems get solved, policies made and decisions taken," Merkel said as she took over the chancellery.

Merkel succeeds Gerhard Schroeder, whose government was ousted by voters Sept. 18. Merkel's more pro-American outlook contrasts with Schroeder's criticism of the war in Iraq.

At her inauguration, Merkel told Schroeder: "I would like to thank you for what you have done for our country," citing his efforts to trim the welfare state and boost the economy. DAVID MCHUGH (AP)

FRITZ REISS/AP

New German chancellor Angela Merkel will lead a fragile coalition government.

Japan Moves Toward Boosting Military Role

TOKYO | Japan's ruling party marked its 50th anniversary Tuesday with a proposed constitutional change that could give the nation a more assertive military presence.

The pacifist constitution's first alteration since its adoption in 1947 would create an official role for the Japanese armed forces. The language of the revision would then allow those forces to assist military allies and help with armed international peacekeeping, according to outside experts and members of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party.

Japan maintains a small domestic self-defense force under the current constitution, which renounces war and bars the country from using force in international disputes.

The proposed revision by the LDP still renounces war but allows the nation to use its armed forces for self-defense and international peacekeeping.

The change is part of a push by Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi's government to give Japan a larger military and diplomatic profile. The LDP also backs completely replacing the charter, which was drafted by U.S. military occupiers after World War II. CARL FREIRE (AP)

Koizumi

Money

"I believe we must take action ... I'm confident that we can innovate our way toward the right solutions."

—**Ford Co. CEO Bill Ford**, speaking Tuesday on the future of the U.S. auto industry

Discounters Vie For Holiday Sales

Wal-Mart ready to face off with its trendy big box rival, Target

The slim tunics and velvet blazers on Wal-Mart's clothing racks this holiday season are more than the latest trendy fashions — they're a sign that the intense competition between the world's largest retailer and its upscale discount rival is ratcheting higher.

There are other indications that Target Corp. has turned up the pressure on Wal-Mart Stores Inc. Hoping to get customers shopping earlier, Wal-Mart will open its doors at 5 a.m. Friday, the official start of the holiday shopping season; that's an hour earlier than during past holiday seasons. It's also promising to match competitors' prices on specific merchandise that day.

Wal-Mart stumbled last holiday season when its discounts weren't big enough to satisfy customers and its stores lacked must-have items including iPod music players. So far this year, it looks like Wal-Mart has gained ground — this time it's Target that's been less generous with discounts, charging more on toys than Wal-Mart and Toys R Us Inc., according to Sean McGowan, an analyst at Harris Nesbitt.

Wal-Mart's tactics may already have stolen some business from Target, which warned that sales from stores open at least a year, known as same-store sales, are tracking well below its 4 percent to 6 percent growth forecast for November. Wal-Mart has held to its November sales growth forecast of 3 percent to 5 percent. (AP)

GERRY BROOME/AP

Shoppers hunt for early holiday bargains in a Target store in Durham, N.C.

In Brief

ALBANY, NEW YORK

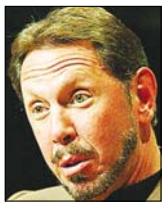
Warner Music Agrees to Pay $5M in Probe of Radio Play

Warner Music Group Corp. has agreed to pay $5 million to settle an investigation into payoffs for radio airplay of artists, New York Attorney General Eliot Spitzer said Tuesday. Warner is the second major U.S. recording company to reform and settle with Spitzer in a practice the attorney general called industrywide. (AP)

REDWOOD CITY, CALIF.

Judge Rules Oracle CEO Should Pay Charity, Lawyers

A judge on Tuesday approved an unusual legal settlement that will require Oracle Corp. CEO Larry Ellison to donate $100 million to charity and pay another $22 million to the attorneys who sued him for alleged stock trading abuses. Barring an appeal, the $122 million settlement finalized by San Mateo Superior Court Judge John Schwartz closes the books on a shareholder lawsuit filed nearly four years ago on behalf of Oracle, one of the world's largest software makers. The civil complaint revolves around a $900 million gain that Ellison generated by selling some of his Oracle stock shortly before the company's shares plummeted in 2001. (AP)



Ellison

Market Action

New York Stock Exchange

Gainers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
Natl RV h	6.45	+.74	+13.0
SaxonCp	12.36	+1.23	+11.1
WDigitl	14.85	+1.30	+9.6
BrwnShoe	39.95	+3.45	+9.5
HeclaM	3.88	+.31	+8.7

Losers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
CooperCo	51.50	-13.32	-20.5
MidwGm	21.06	-2.33	-10.0
CalaGTR n	13.85	-1.15	-7.7
ING GlAd n	18.50	-1.50	-7.5
CBOT n	106.70	-6.80	-6.0

NASDAQ Stock Market

Gainers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
EVCI CClg	3.13	+.93	+42.3
ChinaNRes	5.86	+1.39	+31.1
Chindex	7.75	+1.65	+27.0
OmniEnr	3.18	+.56	+21.4
AlloyInc	5.46	+.84	+18.2

Losers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
MTS	30.35	-8.87	-22.6
PainTher	6.90	-1.61	-18.9
Firstwv	2.07	-.38	-15.5
GoldEn	3.14	-.46	-12.8
Innotrac	7.03	-.91	-11.4

Rates

	CURRENT	PREVIOUS WEEK
Prime Rate	7.00	7.00
Fed Funds close	4.00	4.00
3-month	3.84	3.92
2-year	4.31	4.46
10-year	4.43	4.56
30-year	4.66	4.75

Currency (Dollars in foreign currency)

	TODAY	PREVIOUS DAY	YEAR AGO
British Pound	.5807	.5821	.5382
Canadian Dollar	1.1738	1.1821	1.1860
European Euro	.8465	.8532	.7670
Japanese Yen	118.78	118.92	103.25
Mexican Peso	10.6460	10.6490	11.3650
Taiwanese Dollar	33.62	33.61	32.45

DOW	NASDAQ	S&P 500
+51.15	+11.89	+6.38
+0.47	+0.53	+0.51
10871.43	2253.56	1261.23

Media Stocks

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	YEAR TO DATE PERCENT CHANGE
ClearChan	32.50	+.12	-3.0
Comcast	27.10	-.03	-18.6
Comc sp	26.71	-.10	-18.7
DirecTV	13.84	+.05	-17.3
Disney	24.94	-.11	-10.3
Gannett	62.03	-.60	-24.1
LibtyMA	7.75	+.06	-17.0
McGrwH s	52.34	+.04	+14.4
NewsCpA	14.99	+.19	-19.7
NewsCpB	15.75	+.20	-18.0
Omnicom	81.42	+.17	-3.4
Thomson	34.30	+.27	-2.8
TimeWarn	18.17	+.08	-6.6
ViacomB	34.07	+.43	-6.4
WPP Gp	49.11	-.42	-10.2

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13% | **The increase in ridership** the District's Circulator buses have seen since September, according to D.C. Department of Transportation Director Dan Tangherlini. He says about 300,000 people have now used the service, which debuted in July.

Local

In Brief

FREDERICK, MD.

Woman Who Let Kids Ride In Car's Trunk Convicted

A judge convicted a woman of reckless endangerment Tuesday for letting three small children ride in the trunk of her car. Lanora A. Lucas, 37, of Thurmont, faces a maximum penalty of 15 years in prison and $15,000 in fines for the three misdemeanor convictions. Frederick County District Judge W. Milnor Roberts didn't set a sentencing date, pending a presentencing investigation. (AP)

Lucas

WASHINGTON

Man Jumps to His Death From Downtown Building

A man ran naked into an office building in downtown Washington on Tuesday, took an elevator to its eighth floor, then jumped to his death, The Washington Post reported. The incident happened near 15th and K streets. According to the Post, officials were still working to identify the man. (EXPRESS)

WASHINGTON

Officials Remove 56 Cats From Home in Northeast

Some 56 cats were recovered from a Northeast Washington home where authorities say the animals were being hoarded. The Washington Humane Society described a disgusting scene of overflowing litter boxes and floors littered with cat food. Officials say they'd been to the house in June after getting a complaint. Back then, there were about two-dozen cats. Another round of complaints brought them back to the home today. (AP)

SUSAN BIDDLE/TWP

Humane society workers remove cats from a NE Washington home Tuesday.

Man Convicted in Plot to Kill Bush

Life sentence possible for Falls Church student

ALEXANDRIA, VA. | An American student charged with joining al Qaeda and plotting to assassinate President Bush was convicted on all counts Tuesday, after jurors rejected his claim that Saudi security officers tortured him into a false confession.

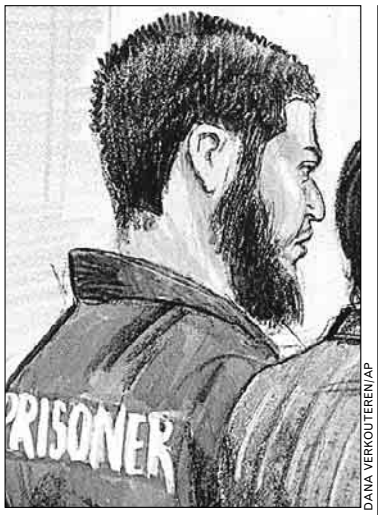
The jury in U.S. District Court convicted Ahmed Omar Abu Ali, 24, of Falls Church on all nine counts after 2 days of deliberation. The charges include conspiracy to assassinate the president, conspiracy to hijack aircraft and providing material support to al Qaeda.

The charges carry a possibility of life in prison and a mandatory minimum sentence of 20 years, prosecutors said. Sentencing is scheduled for Feb. 17.

Abu Ali's lawyer, Khurrum Wahid, said he will appeal.

Abu Ali "is disappointed that the jury didn't see the truth and he wants us to continue the fight," Wahid said after the verdict. Wahid said he believes it's difficult for any person to get a fair trial when the accusations involve al Qaeda.

Jurors in the three-week trial saw a videotaped confession Abu Ali gave to the Saudis in which he said he joined al Qaeda because he hated the United States for its support of Israel. Notes taken by Saudi interrogators showed that he discussed numerous potential terror plots, but the one that most appealed to him was killing "the leader of the infidels" — President Bush.



DANA VERKOUTEREN/AP

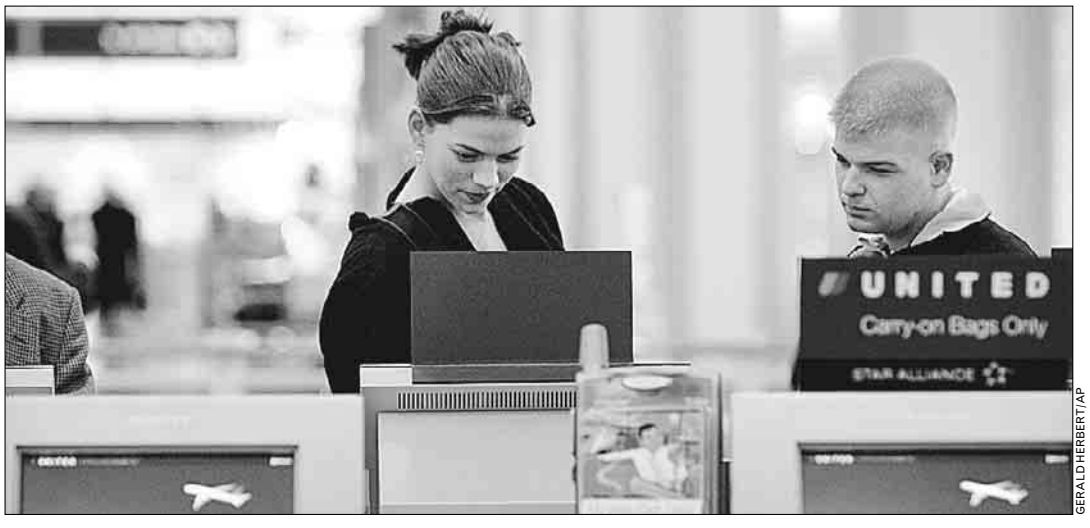
Ahmed Omar Abu Ali stands in a prisoner's uniform at an Alexandria courthouse in this sketch from March.

Defense lawyers argued, though, that Abu Ali gave a false confession after being whipped and beaten by the Saudi security force known as the Mubahith.

Abu Ali, who testified in detail about his detention and alleged torture at a pretrial hearing, chose not to testify at trial. He instead relied on the testimony of a doctor and a psychiatrist who said Abu Ali's account was consistent with being tortured, and on photographs of his back which depicted what he said were scars left from the flogging.

MATTHEW BARAKAT (AP)

IN The Washington Post | THE HOLIDAY EXODUS



GERALD HERBERT/AP

ON A JET PLANE: Megan Lowry and Mark Monks use a self-service check-in kiosk at Ronald Reagan National Airport on Tuesday. Veteran travelers give tips on how to navigate heightened airport security. | **Today in Business**

Neighborhood in Fairfax Sets Fine For Feeding Geese

FAIRFAX, VA. | Feeding the geese, as well as the mallards, could be a $50 dinner tab.

The Board of Supervisors approved the waterfowl feeding fine Monday night for Little Hunting Creek, where residents say flocks of the birds expecting to be fed have grown aggressive and fouled their properties. The fine applies to 174 properties around the creek near Mount Vernon.

The $50 fine will take effect in two weeks as a two-year pilot program that could be extended to other areas of Fairfax. (AP)

Pr. George's Sets Record for Homicides

RIVERDALE HEIGHTS, MD. | Prince George's County reached a grim milestone late Monday, recording its 155th homicide of the year — an all-time record number of killings.

Stephon Haynes, 23, of Langley Park, was found with multiple gunshot wounds and died later at a local hospital, police said. Officers were called to the scene at about 7:45 p.m. in the 6300 block of 64th Avenue in Riverdale Heights. There were no descriptions of any suspects in the case.

The previous record of 154 murders was set back in 1991 and was matched last week. In 2000 there were 71 homicides in the county — less than half the number recorded this year. Last year 148 people were killed.

Police blame firearms and drugs for most of the killings but have said they're working to attack the problem. (AP)

The Lotteries

Tuesday, Nov. 22

DISTRICT	
Mid-day Lucky Numbers	7-5-4
Evening Lucky Numbers	0-6-9
Mid-day DC 4	2-4-7-1
Evening DC 4	4-9-7-5
Rolling Cash Five	9-7-11-27-22
Daily 6	32-17-15-35-14-10 Bonus: 22

MARYLAND	
Mid-day Pick 3	7-8-1
Evening Pick 3	5-0-3
Mid-day Pick 4	2-7-7-8
Evening Pick 4	2-8-0-4
Match 5	07-08-18-31-34 Bonus: 24

VIRGINIA	
Mid-day Pick 3 (Tues.)	9-6-8
Evening Pick 3 (Mon.)	8-3-7
Mid-day Pick 4 (Tues.)	8-5-5-7
Evening Pick 4 (Mon.)	8-3-3-8
Mid-day Cash 5 (Tues.)	2-7-15-21-32
Evening Cash 5 (Mon.)	8-10-21-23-28

All winning numbers are official only when validated at a lottery ticket location or a lottery claims office. Drawings that occur after Express's deadline will be published two days later.

Cars

SANTA FE IS COMIN' TO TOWN: The 2007 Hyundai Santa Fe has launched in Korea, with notable differences from previous editions. Not too much information yet about what to expect in a U.S. release, but Internet rumors abound.

H3: Get On the Bus

This Hummer's big on fun — if you ignore safety and gas costs

Like its close cousin, the school bus, the Hummer H2 is awfully hard to overlook. Higher than most, wide in the shoulders and with a scowl across its plastic front teeth, the Hummer has a don't-mess-with-me attitude, the sort of vehicle driven by the mouthiest parent at your kid's soccer games. For almost 14 years now, Hummers have been the baddest dudes on the block.

Enter the H3, Hummer's latest attempt to make such beefcake more acceptable to the masses, a "pre-shrunk" version shorter in length and narrower than its big brother, the H2. In an era of downsizing, of coming to terms with our limitations and responsibilities, is this symbolism or absurdity? If you downsize a beast, can you create a beauty?

If nothing else, the Hummer line of vehicles always has been a bold idea. The H1 and subsequent H2 looked like something you played with as a kid, or your favorite power tool as an adult. Bless the Hummers' beastly hearts, they never tried to get soft and cuddly. The Hummer line never forgot its military pedigree or place in the market as a brawny off-roader.

BEATRICE DE GEA/L.A. TIMES

The somewhat smaller H3 tries to find a balance between powerful-road-beast and irresponsible-gas-guzzling-monstrosity. Silly America, make up your mind!

This new mid-size Hummer H3 seems tuned in to Americans' ability to second-guess ourselves. We're frightened by what we're seeing at the gas pump, but are we ready to write off the sort of driving pleasure we consider our birthright?

The H3 offers plenty of aerobic enjoyment. It pivots like a running back but carries a linebacker's strength. It's surprisingly fun to drive, even in crowded school drop-off points ("Sorry, children, this is not a bus. Please back off.").

Although slightly underpowered on freeway onramps, the H3 also offers all the oomph you'll need in city driving situations.

In the end, the H3 is as serious and functional as its tow hooks. Guys will like its Tonka-truck sense of fun, the fact that it could go anywhere. Yet drivers will be leery of its reduced visibility, and especially the low gas mileage. CHRIS ERSKINE (LOS ANGELES TIMES)

2006 HUMMER H3

➜ **POWERTRAIN:** Four-speed automatic; Vortec 3500 3.5-liter inline five cylinder, with dual overhead camshafts and four valves per cylinder

➜ **HORSEPOWER:** 220 at 5,600 rpm

➜ **TORQUE:** 225 pound feet at 2,800 rpm

LIVE ONLINE

Car Care

Automotive expert **PAT GOSS** owns Pat Goss Car World, Inc., a local car repair company. He chats monthly on washingtonpost.com/cars.

Infinity says only premium gas should be used in its 2004 G35. But people say that if I put in regular, the worst that can happen is pinging. Can I lower my gas bill without endangering the car?

You're on your own with that one. There is no way to know exactly what will happen on any individual automobile.

My 2002 Ford Focus with 76,000 miles has never had a transmission flush. People tell me not to have it now because it would create debris. What do you think?

Whether or not transmission flushing is advisable has nothing to do with mileage. If the fluid is nasty, discolored, smelly — leave it alone, the damage has already been done. If the fluid still looks new and smells like new, get it flushed.

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ART OF VOTING: Former Redskins receiver Art Monk, who was the NFL's top receiver before he retired, is one of 25 semifinalists to join the NFL Hall of Fame. The list includes ex-Cowboys QB Troy Aikman and the late Reggie White.

Sports

RAY STUBBLEBINE/REUTERS

Gilbert Arenas had a very off night playing in New Jersey last Saturday.

Road Still Not Kind To Wizards

Washington out to prove it can win away from the MCI Center

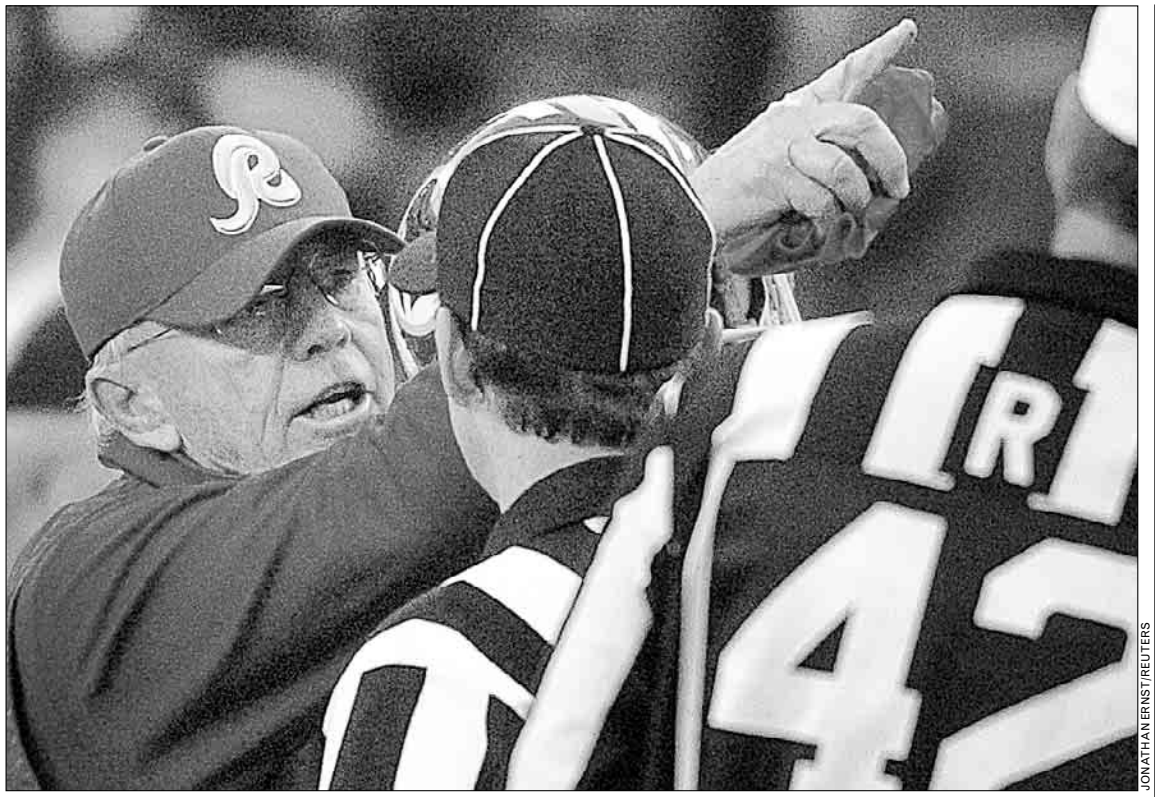
WIZARDS | When the Wizards started the season with two quick road victories, hopes were high that they'd finally overcome last year's main problem. With just a 16-25 record on opponents' courts last year, being consistent on any court was a major goal of the offseason.

But three consecutive road losses last week, however, have brought back worries that the problem still remains. And, after last night's quick stop at the MCI Center, many view this next road trip — starting tonight in Orlando (3-6) — as a test of whether the Wizards (5-4) stay composed on other courts.

Players, however, say that it is meaningless that the losses happened on the road. "We cannot afford to worry about something that we have no control over. There's nothing we can do about that now," point guard Antonio Daniels said. "That's water under the bridge."

The road wins will come, players say, as everyone — both veteran Wizards and new guys — become accustomed to the offensive game plan and "get organized as a team," shooting guard Gilbert Arenas said. "Learn each other, learn what we do best, learn what we don't do the best." CHRIS MINCHER (EXPRESS)

Late games: Both the Wizards and Caps games ended after Express' deadline. Results | **Today's Post, Sports**



JONATHAN ERNST/REUTERS

COOKED? Joe Gibbs is hoping his Redskins don't look like a turkey when they host the San Diego Chargers on Sunday afternoon.

Thanks for the Memories

Reasons why Gibbs can smile after recent losses

REDSKINS | When Joe Gibbs pushes away from the table and sighs tomorrow, it'll be hard to tell if he's making a sound of contentment or anguish.

The busiest sexagenarian in American sports should be basking in his NASCAR team's second points championship. Instead, the Redskins have him reaching for the Maalox. And while watching good ol' boys drive in circles has evolved into a national pastime, there's no doubt where Gibbs' focus will be the next six weeks.

"We have a lot at stake," he said. (That's coach speak for "one more game like that and we're as cooked as that turkey.")

The Redskins (5-5) have two choices — win at least five of their next six games — or walk off the field after their New Year's Day finale mouthing the "we'll get 'em next year" mantra that's become so familiar at FedEx Field.

The stretch run starts Sunday, when Gibbs will try to get something out of his offense against San Diego (6-4), led by another jilted ex-Redskins coach — Marty Schottenheimer — who just might get some joy out of crippling owner Dan Snyder's playoff hopes.

Despite last week's disappointing performance, Gibbs does have a few things to be thankful for (you know, besides multiple championships, the adoration of fans and peers and a load of money):

➜ **THE REMAINING SCHEDULE:** San Diego will be tough to beat, but the Rams (4-6) and Cardinals (3-7) are both winnable road games. That leaves division foes Dallas (7-3), New York (7-3) and the season-ender at nose-diving Philadelphia (4-6).

➜ **LAVAR-GATE IS OVER:** Whether he's back next year or not, Arrington and the coaching staff seem to have buried the tomahawk.

➜ **AT LONG LAST, A DEFENSIVE TD:** Lemar Marshall did the honors against Oakland. Someone has to score, and the offense didn't seem to be into that last week.

But if all of that fails, and Gibbs' is still left with a "gravy boat is half empty" feeling, he can always flip on the early game Thursday and think of it this way: At least he's not coaching the Lions. ERIC BRANDNER

THREE BURNING QUESTIONS

➜ **Where's the End Zone?** The Redskins offense best show the form it had in Tampa against a Chargers team averaging 30 points a game.

➜ **'Skins D or L.T.?** LaDainian Tomlinson has 902 yards and 14 touchdowns. Good luck.

➜ **Turn the Tide?** Three more turnovers put the Redskins at a minus-13, worst in the NFL.

DreamTeam

FANTASY FOOTBALL | BY CHRIS MINCHER

Don't Lose the Numbers Game

WHICH RUNNING BACK would you rather have so far this season? Willis McGahee, with 895 yards rushing with four rushing touchdowns, or Brian Westbrook, with 480 rushing yards and two rushing touchdowns?

If that answer seems obvious, you might have too narrow a focus toward certain stat categories.

RICHARD CARSON/REUTERS

Larry Johnson has emerged as a top rusher in Priest Holmes' absence in K.C.

Although McGahee has 415 more rushing yards and two more rushing touchdowns than Westbrook, the better player so far has been Westbrook. The reason is simple: Westbrook has 567 receiving yards and his total yardage is more than McGahee's, and his four receiving touchdowns give him a touchdown advantage as well.

The lesson: Don't zero in one stat.

SECOND-HALF MUST-HAVES

➜ **LARRY JOHNSON, RB, KANSAS CITY CHIEFS.** Duh. Johnson should be one of the league's top backs for at least a few years.

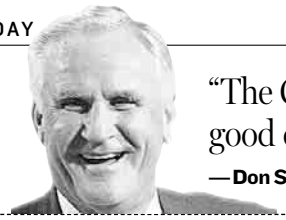
➜ **GUS FREROTTE, QB, MIAMI DOLPHINS.** The Dolphins schedule gets considerably weaker, and Frerotte should find some consistency with Ronnie Brown getting more productive.

THE YOUNG AND THE TALENTLESS

➜ **SAM GADO, RB, GREEN BAY PACKERS.** Everyone was goo-goo for Gado after his multi-touchdown game against the Falcons, but his fumble-to-touchdown ratio is one-to-one.

➜ **REGGIE WILLIAMS, WR, JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS.** Byron Leftwich could toss 3,500 yards, and Reggie Williams couldn't run a route if it was painted on the field for him.

Sports



"The Colts are doing things no other team has done and they're looking good doing it. This team has a real chance of running the table."

—**Don Shula**, coach of the undefeated 1972 Dolphins on the 10-0 Indianapolis Colts' run this year.

Terps Struggle in 'Toughest League'

Maryland has 1 game left to prove it belongs in a bowl this season

TERPS FOOTBALL | Welcome, Terrapins, to the new Atlantic Coast Conference. Need an ice pack for that shiner?

The expansion of the ACC is complete this year, and the Maryland Terrapins already have welcomed the new teams by playing punching bag for Boston College once and Virginia Tech twice. And they haven't even played Miami yet.

The former Big East teams have acquitted themselves well in their new league. Each team is either in first or second place in their respective divisions. All three are bowl bound.

"I think from top to bottom we're the toughest league in the country," Maryland coach Ralph Friedgen said.

Friedgen is right. For more than a decade, Florida State owned the conference. Now the Seminoles are merely one of a handful of teams that strike fear in any program in the nation. Five currently are ranked in the top 25, and the path to the first ever ACC championship game has been filled with roadblocks.

"When we first got in the conference [in 1991], there might have been one team that could challenge you. Now there's four or five," Seminoles coach Bobby Bowden said. "That was the purpose of getting us in it and getting Miami and all these teams, to improve it. And I guarantee you it's improved."

No team is safe. Miami beat Virginia Tech. Florida State beat Miami. Virginia beat Florida State.

JOEL RICHARDSON/TWP

Maryland coach Ralph Friedgen dubbed the ACC the "toughest league in the country" as his team readies to face N.C. State in its season finale on Saturday.

THREE BURNING QUESTIONS

➜ **Can the Momentum Be Stopped?** The Terps have lost three of four while the Wolfpack have won three of four.

➜ **I Am Sam?** Since injuring his shoulder against Va. Tech, Sam Hollenbach has been susceptible to turnovers.

➜ **Strong Finish?** In five losses, the Terps have been outscored 83-28 in the fourth quarter.

Maryland, while showing flashes of potential this season, has conference losses to Clemson, Virginia Tech, Florida State and Boston College. The Terrapins have one last conference game, at North Carolina State on Saturday, with a winning record and bowl eligibility on the line. N.C. State ranks last in the ACC's Atlantic Division with a 2-5 record in the conference. But, like Maryland, the Wolfpack are 5-5 overall and need a win to reach the postseason.

"This is it for us," Maryland guard Donnie Woods said. "It's the big showdown." DEREK TURNER

Swengali

TERPS FOOTBALL | BY MATT SWENSON

Cooling on the Terps' Fridge

IS THE FRIDGE working in College Park? Because the football team seems frozen in mediocrity all of a sudden. Another performance like last week's debacle against Boston College, and Maryland will have its second straight losing season that doesn't end with a bowl game.

And if the Terps lose to N.C. State on Saturday, there's one person to look at when casting blame. I'll give you a hint, it's impossible to miss him.

Not that the larger-than-life Ralph Friedgen should or will get fired with another loss, but the bloom will certainly be off that rose — or orange, as in the Orange Bowl he led the Terps to in 2002.

Friedgen put Maryland's football program back on the map when he took over five years ago. He's been rewarded in kind, with multiple new contracts. Let's face facts, though. Friedgen did all his winning with players Ron Vanderlinden recruited.

Maryland, for example, went 1-4 at Byrd Stadium this year.

There's no doubting Friedgen's coaching ability. He knows how to win with the right players.

Getting those players is the tricky part. It's been all his kids the past two years, and the results aren't pretty. Maryland, for example, went 1-4 at Byrd Stadium this year.

If you can't recruit in the tough ACC, it doesn't matter how good you are at strategy.

A win Saturday quells some criticism. A loss leaves Friedgen having to prove his recruiting prowess before a repairman gets called in to fix his mess.

Matt Swenson is Express' sports editor.
E-mail matt.swenson@readexpress.com

TV Lineup

➜ **TURKEY BOWLS:** The Detroit Lions host the Atlanta Falcons (12:30 p.m. on Fox) and the Dallas Cowboys host the Denver Broncos (4 p.m. on CBS) on Thanksgiving.

➜ **MARTYBALL:** The Redskins face another ex-coach, Marty Schottenheimer, when the Chargers visit FedEx Field Sunday (1 p.m. on CBS).

➜ **LET'S GO BOWLING:** Maryland needs a win over N.C. State Saturday (noon on ESPN) to be bowl-eligible.

➜ **ON ICE:** The Caps play Tampa Bay Wednesday (7 p.m. on NewsChannel 8), the New York Rangers Saturday (8 p.m. on WB50) and the Buffalo Sabres Sunday (4 p.m. on WB50).

➜ **THE WIZ:** The Wizards face the Orlando Magic Wednesday (7 p.m. on CSN), the Detroit Pistons on Friday (8 p.m. on CSN) and Charlotte Bobcats on Saturday (7:30 p.m. on CSN).

GW Establishes a Winning Tradition

Hobbs' hard work pays off with No. 21 ranking as team's season starts

GW HOOPS | George Washington might have been first in war and first in peace, but the university named after him was last — or close to it — in the hearts of college basketball fans only a few years ago.

No one knows that better than Chicago native Mike Hall, who had to educate his Windy City friends when he decided to give the Colonials a try three years ago.

"My freshman year," Hall said, "when I said I was going to George Washington, they were like 'Georgetown?' I said, 'Naw, it's a little bit away from that.'"

It is just a short drive through a dozen traffic lights or so from Georgetown to GW, but the greater distance is the one the Colonials have traveled since the arrival of coach Karl Hobbs in 2001. The final days of coach Tom Penders are a distant memory, and former Connecticut assistant Hobbs has methodically rebuilt the program to the point where George Washington begins the season Wednesday against Kennesaw State with a deep, talented team ranked No. 21 in the county and the favorite to repeat as Atlantic 10 champion.

WILFREDO LEE/AP

Karl Hobbs' team will play Kennesaw State in Wednesday's season opener.

"All the things that he's been putting together, I think this is the year," junior J.R. Pinnock said.

In an era of fix-it-quick-or-be-gone, Hobbs stated that his mantra of "character before wins" was going to require patience. Rather than build his program around one or two players, he recruits far and wide to find a certain type of player — to the point where he jokes that they all look alike.

"When you look at my team, there isn't a whole lot of difference between any of the guys," Hobbs said. "If someone told you my entire team was related, you would say, 'OK, they all kind of look alike.' I joke that we've been sort of branded. You can tell what a GW player looks like and runs like and plays like." JOSEPH WHITE (AP)

NEXT STOP, SAN DIEGO: A day after accepting a spot in the inaugural Poinsettia Bowl in San Diego, Navy now knows it opponent. The Mids will play Colorado State, which agreed to play the Dec. 22 game on Tuesday, officials said.

U-Md. Blows Out Chaminade Late

McCray scores 17 as Terrapins bounce back from loss to Gonzaga

TERPS HOOPS | It took Maryland an entire half to get going, but then the Terrapins really cruised.

Chris McCray scored 17 points — nine in a 23-0 run in the second half — to lead No. 23 Maryland to a 98-69 victory over Chaminade on Tuesday in the consolation round of the EA Sports Maui Invitational.

The Terrapins (2-1), who lost 88-76 to No. 8 Gonzaga in the opening round, will play Arkansas for fifth place on Wednesday.

Chaminade (0-2), the Division II host school of the eight-team tournament, brought back memories of its famed win over another Atlantic Coast Conference school in taking an 11-point lead in the first half. The Silverswords stunned No. 1 Virginia and Ralph Sampson in December 1982.

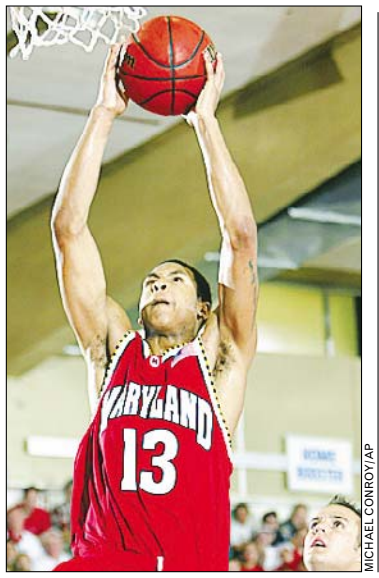
Maryland ended any thoughts of an upset with the big second-half run that gave the Terrapins a 74-52 lead with 12:03 to play.

"They did a great job in coming at us and we finally did a good job of getting back, getting matched up and from that point on we pretty much took control of the game," Maryland coach Gary Williams said. "But until we did that, the game could have gone either way, obviously."

McCray hit a jumper to start the run that was fueled by Maryland's defense as Chaminade had trouble handling pressure and the Terrapins' size advantage inside.

Two free throws by Zach Whiting had given Chaminade a 52-51 lead with 17:13 to play.

The Silverswords then missed five shots and committed six turnovers before Corey Campbell broke the drought with 11:41 left. Maryland went on to lead by as many as 32 points. JIM O'CONNELL (AP)



MICHAEL CONROY/AP

Chris McCray dunks in Maryland's win over Chaminade in a consolation game.

Red Wing 'Well' After Heart Stops

HOCKEY | Red Wings defenseman Jiri Fischer was "doing very, very well" Tuesday, a day after he collapsed on the bench and his heart stopped during a game.

"The great news is that Jiri Fischer is doing very, very well," Red Wings general manager Ken Holland said at a news conference. Holland and team physician Tony Colucci — who administered CPR to Fischer on the bench Monday night — said the player was "in good spirits."

Fischer

Fischer, 25, was in good condition after he began having convulsions on the bench late in the first period of a game against the Nashville Predators. An auto defibrillator was used on Fischer before he was taken out of the arena by ambulance to Detroit Receiving Hospital. (AP)

Ruling on T.O. Expected Wednesday

NFL | A decision on Terrell Owens' grievance hearing against the Philadelphia Eagles is expected Wednesday.

Arbitrator Richard Bloch heard more than 13 hours of arguments last week.

The Eagles said Tuesday they anticipate a ruling Wednesday on whether Owens' four-game suspension for conduct detrimental to the team is justified.

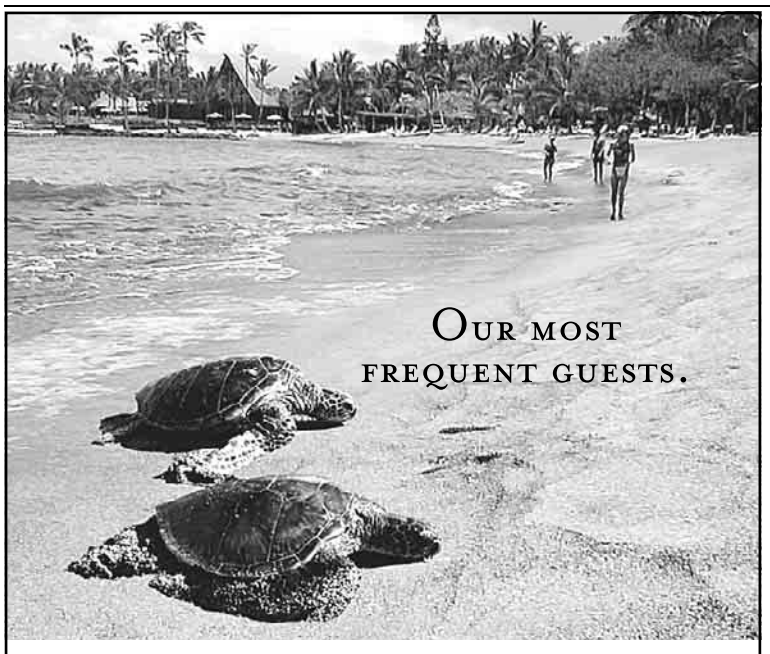
Owens' side argued the penalty is excessive and the Eagles' plan to deactivate him once that time is up is too severe. Owens is seeking reinstatement to the Eagles or a release so he can sign with another team.

The Eagles maintain the suspension is fair and are willing to pay Owens about $1 million to stay home the final five games. (AP)

HEARSAY | CAVS PAIN

"Maybe more harm than good can come from ... reliving that."

—VIRGINIA'S BRENNAN SCHMIDT ON WHY CAVS COACHES ARE NOT REVIEWING FILM OF THE 52-14 LOSS TO VIRGINIA TECH.



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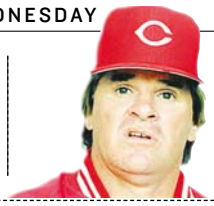


NOT SO ROSY OUTLOOK: When it comes to the Hall of Fame, Pete Rose will still be locked out. Rose won't appear on the ballot in his final year of eligibility because Commissioner Bud Selig will not rule on Rose's application for reinstatement before the 2006 candidates are announced Nov. 29.

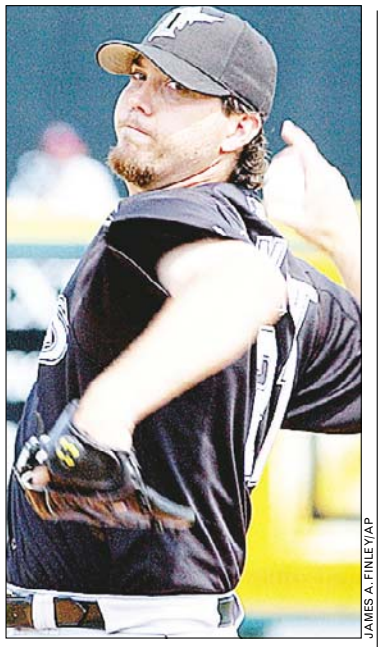
Red Sox Reel In Beckett to Be Ace

Without GM, Boston makes blockbuster trade for Marlins star

BASEBALL | Shopping for a premier pitcher, the Boston Red Sox put together a deal to acquire Florida ace Josh Beckett and didn't even need a general manager to do it.

The Red Sox and Marlins reached a preliminary agreement Monday night on a trade that would send Beckett and third baseman Mike Lowell to Boston for three prospects.

Florida would get touted shortstop Hanley Ramirez and minor league pitchers Anibal Sanchez and Jesus Delgado in the deal, which was pending physicals, according to a baseball official who requested anonymity because the trade was yet to be finalized.



JAMES A. FINLEY/AP

Josh Beckett will be the new ace of the Boston Red Sox pitching staff next year.

The Red Sox are still searching for a new GM after Theo Epstein's departure at the end of last month — but that hasn't stopped them from doing business.

Beckett was the MVP of Florida's 2003 World Series win over the New York Yankees and went 15-8 with a 3.38 ERA last season, when he had problems with his shoulder and recurring blisters on his right middle finger.

A three-time All-Star, Lowell slumped to .236 with eight homers and 58 RBIs last season.

As for the Red Sox and their GM search, they interviewed Jim Bowden for a second time on Monday but no decision was imminent. Bowden, GM of the Washington Nationals and former GM for the Cincinnati Reds, met with Red Sox officials in Boston. The team also conducted a second interview last weekend with Jim Beattie, former Baltimore Orioles executive vice president. HOWARD ULMAN (AP)

MARLINS THREATEN MOVE

➜ The Florida Marlins will look into relocation as early as the 2008 season, after years of unsuccessful attempts to secure a baseball-only stadium in downtown Miami. Marlins president David Samson said Tuesday the team has received permission from the commissioner's office to investigate its options in other cities. Samson added owner Jeffrey Loria's primary intention is to keep the team in South Florida, but added that no deal will be struck for a ballpark in Miami. (AP)

Battered, Bruised Redskins Seek Wide Receivers

REDSKINS | In dire need of receivers and special teams players, the Redskins worked out Antonio Brown and three other players Tuesday.

The Redskins need to replace David Patten, James Thrash, Mike Sellers and Ladell Betts for Sunday's game against San Diego. Patten is out for the season with a knee injury, Thrash is sidelined at least a week with a pulled hamstring, Sellers is out with a fractured rib, and Betts is expected to miss at least one more game with a sprained knee.

The Redskins are down to three healthy receivers: Santana Moss, Taylor Jacobs and Jimmy Farris, who was signed Monday. Betts and Thrash are the two main kickoff returners, and Sellers is also a key special teams contributor. (AP)

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Inside: French auteur Louis Malle's contradictory oeuvre reconsidered in a citywide film fest »

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DANIELLE LEVITT

Richmond's O.A.R. haven't started the revolution, but they do play around a lot.

Richard Clarke: War and Rumors of War

For some people, the year 2010 once evoked images of teleporting machines and jet-propelled rollerskates. But Richard Clarke has a much dimmer view of the future, as evidenced by his debut novel, "The Scorpion Gate." The renowned counterterrorism expert and one-time administration whipping boy comes to Politics & Prose to talk about his political thriller and the threat of a third world war.

Politics & Prose, 5015 Connecticut Avenue NW; Fri., 7 p.m., free; 202-364-1919. (Van Ness-UDC/Tenleytown)

O.A.R.: Revolution Rock

OK, we'll meet your five pop-music revolutionaries and raise you a ton of new, really catchy songs. The local boys of themelodically minded jam-band collective O.A.R (Of a Revolution) are finished with their "Crazy Game of Poker" and are ready to share their "Stories of a Stranger." (These are names of albums, by the way.)

George Mason University, Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax; Fri., 7:30 p.m., $32; 703-993-3000.

MARYPRANKSTER.COM

GOOD NIGHT, AND GOOD LUCK: After celebrating "Pranksgiving" at Jammin' Java, Mary is off to write non-Prankster songs, do voiceovers and have a life.

The Goodbye Girl

Mary Prankster is a smart chick with a guitar; naturally, she's had enough of D.C.

MUSIC | Mary Prankster would like to send out "one hundred thousand thank yous" blah blah but who cares? We're bitter that the Baltimore-based rock chick with the smart mouth and a whole lot of vicious, funny, evil, tender and truth-telling songs is giving up the guitar. She'll play her last show at "Pranksgiving" at Jammin' Java on Friday. In the meantime, wallow in the past at www.maryprankster.com.

Why are you leaving, dammit?
This year I decided to take a hiatus from the road after playing 80-200 shows a year, every year, since 1995. Artistically, "Mary Prankster" did more than I ever dreamed possible. Creatively, I'm ready to try something new.

Is leaving D.C. the hot new thing?
I wouldn't sound the alarm yet. The area has always been a pretty transient place. It's probably one of the best places to start a musical career in that respect — hometown folks who are into your stuff are bound to end up in some far-flung location eventually and spread the word. God bless us Mid-Atlantic nomads.

What will you be doing now?
I'm working on a memoir. The past 10 years are rich with bizarre characters and crazy adventures. Also, I'm working on some songs that never really fit the "Mary Prankster" archetype. For bread, I've been doing voiceovers for commercials and Web sites and stuff — it's a gas.

You characterize yourself a lot in your lyrics; is music, for you, in part about self-definition?
Uh, maybe. I find songs to be really helpful and cathartic as far as giving a name to something I'm grappling with. Getting the opportunity to mull something over and get as specific as possible about what it is — lyrically spelling it out, musically trying to find the soundtrack that fits the emotion — in that respect it's about definition.

Admit it: You're secretly sentimental.
They say "Scratch a cynic, you find a romantic," but I've found mostly they just yell "Ouch! What the f___?!" and move away from you on the subway.

Your songs are semi-political; isn't there tons of fodder now?
A whole Green Day album's worth at least. ARION BERGER (EXPRESS)

➜ *Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave., Vienna; Fri., 8 p.m. $12 in advance, $15 at door; 703-255-1566.*

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A Very Distant Cry

Wrestling with fame, the Dandy Warhols strike another pose

MUSIC | It is difficult to feel sympathy when a band predicated on fashionable kitsch and ironic detachment complains they're not being taken seriously. The merest hint of authenticity, the thinnest crack in the glossy veneer might create even an illusion of substance. But old habits die hard. Even the famous namesake of the Dandy Warhols refused to be seen without his silvery frightwig. And he was taken very seriously indeed.

No doubt it smarted when Rolling Stone bequeathed one lonely star to the Dandies' recent album, "Odditorium or Warlords of Mars." Then hipster music bible Pitchforkmedia.com followed suit with a scathing review. Why?

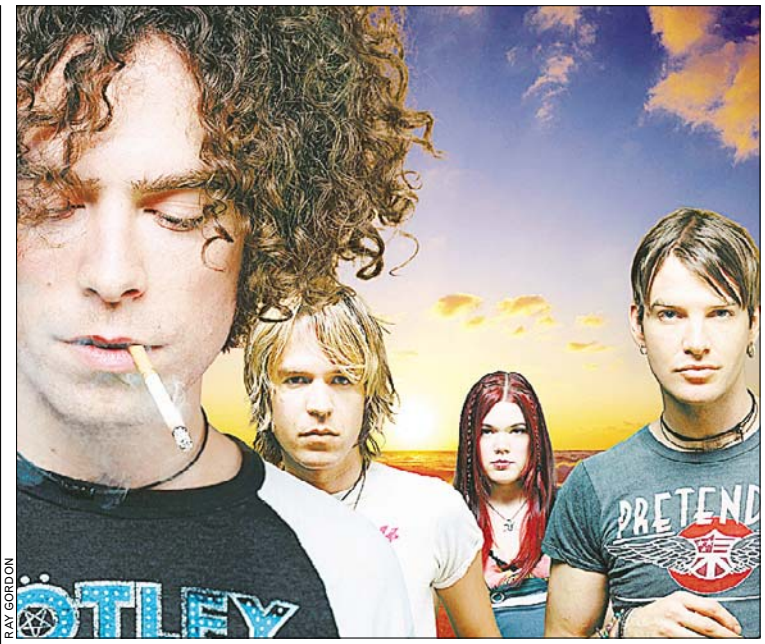
"My theory is that it has more to do with 'Dig!'" said guitarist Peter Loew, referring to the 2004 film of the Dandies' tour with fellow psychedelicists the Brian Jonestown Massacre. "We were portrayed as having pissed a lot of people off. Some arrogance comes across, and we look like a band that's totally success driven, ladder-climbing, and we do nothing but party."

In contrast, the film portrays BJM's leader, Anton Newcombe, as a misunderstood, self-destructive visionary. For a band like the Dandy Warhols, openly enamored of infamous underachievers the Velvet Underground, what could seem more romantic? So a subsequent album that features 12-minute drones comes as little surprise. "I think it's at least a three-star record," said Loew.

Most reviewers, however, pointed to the nine-minute guitar noodle entitled "Love Is the New Feel Awful" as a new low for the band. Likewise, the forementioned droney "A Loan Tonight." It's all the more odd considering the catchiness of tracks like "All the Money or the Simple Life Honey" — a horn-driven, Stonesy satire of the middle-American dream.

Perhaps it was too stark a contrast to 2003's "Welcome to the Monkeyhouse." That album was a throwback to the sugary synth-pop era of Duran Duran, whose keyboardist Nick Rhodes co-produced. "When it came out," said Loew without a trace of irony, "it was two years ahead of the '80s synth-driven thing that's going on right now." It was also widely hailed for raising empty style to an art-form — not unlike a certain other Warhol. BOB MASSEY

→ *9:30 Club, 815 V St. NW; Sun., 7:30 p.m. $25; 703-218-6500. (U St.-Cardozo)*



RAY GORDON

OUTLASTING THEIR 15 MINUTES: The Dandies define themselves in the public eye.

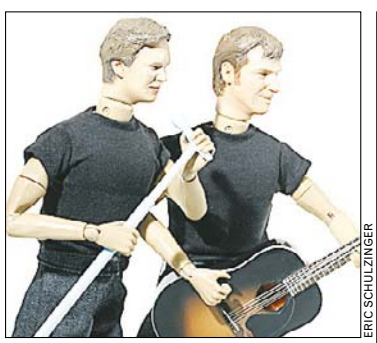
P&S' Fountain of Spoof

Paul and Storm blur the line between rock and novelty snark

MUSIC | When the geyser of madcap a cappella harmonizing that was Da Vinci's Notebook ceased its faithful spouting, fans didn't have to wait long for a new eruption.

Half the band, Paul Sabourin and Greg "Storm" DiCostanzo, immediately set to work ridiculing doo-wop castrati, Gordon Lightfoot and folks who love Pillsbury Cookie Dough too much.

All those targets remain in the crosshairs for "Opening Band," Paul and Storm's full-length debut, but if you want to see them take down "Schoolhouse Rock," Jimmy Buffett and Randy Newman, you'll have to sneak out and see them live at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave., Vienna; Sat., 7 p.m., $10; 703-255-1566. GLENN DIXON



ERIC SCHULZINGER

The former members of Da Vinci's Notebook are amazingly lifelike.

Camera Chameleon

Auteur Louis Malle re-invented himself with every new film

FILM | Louis Malle is easily the least categorizable of Nouvelle Vague filmmakers. For that reason, perhaps, the AFI Silver, the National Gallery of Art and La Maison Française have chosen not to winnow his career for "Risk and Reinvention — the Films of Louis Malle." They're showing just about everything of significance he did.

The biggest and best-known of Malle's features screen at the AFI. This weekend's offerings range from 1960's "Zazie dans le Métro," a rapid-fire adaptation of Raymond Queneau's novel about a 12-year-old's whirlwind tour of Paris, to 1971's "Murmur of the Heart," a tender coming-of-age story about the lighter side of — c'est vrai — mother-son incest. You'll have to wait a month for 1978's "Pretty Baby": a 12-year-old prostitute (Brooke Shields) cozying up to Storyville photographer E.J. Bellocq (Keith Carradine) is actually less seedy than it sounds.

COURTESY AFI SILVER

MAMA'S BOY: To say that "Murmur of the Heart" is about mother-son incest does not approach the film's uproarious humor.

Malle's documentaries and some of his artier experiments play at the National Gallery. Although a sensation upon its release in 1981, "My Dinner With André" (Nov. 26), a piece of filmed theater consisting almost entirely of stage director André Gregory's re-created conversations with playwright and actor Wallace Shawn, today seems dated and provincial. "But André"'s meme status remains undiminished

Similarly stagy but far more successful is "Vanya on 42nd Street" (Dec. 10). Malle's last film again featured Gregory and Shawn (as well as a luminous Julianne Moore), but Chekhov's "Uncle Vanya" has more to say about the inertia and mortality of everybody than Gregory did about his own mid-life crisis.

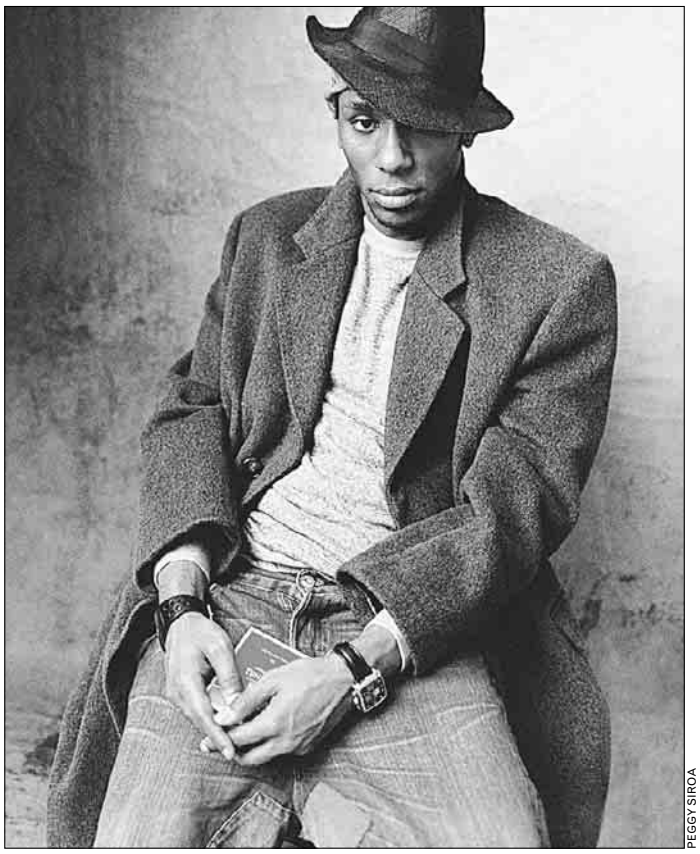
December brings the series' most unusual offering. Both La Maison Française and the NGA will show "Phantom India," a late-'60s mini-series about life on the Subcontinent. GLENN DIXON

➜ *AFI Silver, 8633 Colesville Road, Silver Spring; through Jan. 10, $6.75-$9.25; 301-495-6700. (Silver Spring)*

➜ *National Gallery of Art, 4th Street and Constitution Avenue NW; through Dec. 16, free; 202-842-6799. (Archives-Navy Memorial)*

➜ *La Maison Française, French Embassy, 4101 Reservoir Road NW; through Dec. 15, $5 (reservations required); 202-944-6090.*

LIVE HIP-HOP | THE UNEXPECTED



PEGGY SIROA

DANGER LOOMS: One never knows what will happen when rapper/poet/actor Mos Def takes the stage. But hearing his streaming consciousness is worth the scalper's markup. With fellow-thinkers Talib Kweli, Pharoahe Monch and Jean Grae. 9:30 Club, 815 V St. NW, Fri. & Sat., 7:30 p.m., sold out; 703-218-7328.

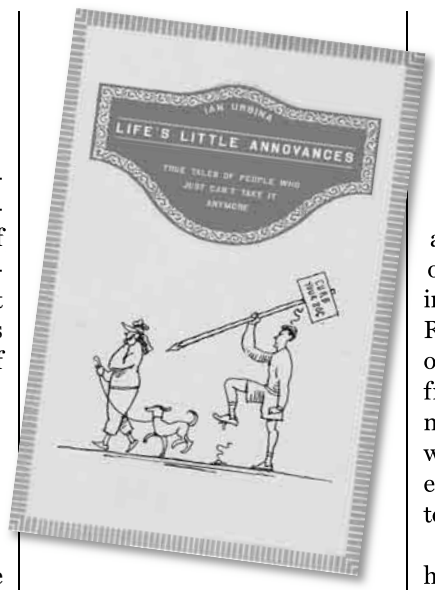
Rudeness in America

Ian Urbina compiles clever real-life ways of irking the turkeys

PAGES | Ian Urbina was a mild-mannered New York Times writer who stumbled upon an idea of great power. He went from newpaperish Clark Kent to talked-about bookish Superman thanks to "Life's Little Annoyances: True Tales of People Who Just Can't Take It Anymore."

The book began as an article that ran in March, detailing some hilarious real-life stories of ordinary folks calling upon their creativity to deal with irksome people, policies or practices: "blow-in" cards in magazines, Starbucks' names for coffee sizes, telemarketers, urban dwellers with no sense of personal space. The idea took off, and the "Lifes' Little Annoyances" was born.

Urbina, who'll be discussing the book at Politics & Prose this weekend, doesn't believe we are, as a nation, terribly annoyed. But it could be said that "the speed of life with help from technology has picked up and the amount of information has increased that we're weeding through on a typical day."



If you're not annoyed, you're the annoyer.

The day-to-day things that work our nerves are little things, but they add up to a culture of being irked, interrupted and inconvenienced virtually all the time.

"There's a lot of pent-up frustration in our culture," Urbina admitted. "But interestingly, a lot of that frustration gets channeled in a lot of funny and scrappy ways. Revenge is just one of the categories of creative ways people deal with frustration. But there are a fair number of examples of folks who were very innovative, they invented some thing, some mechanism to deal with it."

And good for them, if they have the time and patience. Most Americans don't. And everybody wants to be liked. "Yeah," said Urbina. "My impression is that if you don't know anyone who annoys you then you're probably the annoyer." ARION BERGER (EXPRESS)

➜ *Politics & Prose, 5015 Connecticut Ave. NW; Sat., 6 p.m., free; 202-364-1919. (Van Ness-UDC)*

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Drama on the Range

'Brokeback Mountain' is more than just the 'gay cowboy movie'

TABOO | There's no doubt that a $13 million quality movie like Ang Lee's "Brokeback Mountain," which has wowed festivalgoers and reviewers in Telluride, Venice and Toronto, will play well in big movie markets around the country. The question is, how broad will it go?

No one knows that answer, because no one has ventured into this territory before. The movie is a groundbreaker. There's never been a homosexual cowboy movie, and while the indies have been supplying gay romances to the art-house circuit for years, and gay series like "Queer as Folk" and "Will & Grace" have been pulling big numbers on TV, there hasn't been a mainstream gay love story since 1982's "Making Love," which bombed and was blamed by many for damaging Harry Hamlin's career. "It's the one last frontier," said Lee.

So what took Hollywood so long to make a gay love story?

It's been 12 years since Jonathan Demme's "Philadelphia," which starred Denzel Washington as a homophobic lawyer defending AIDS patient Tom Hanks, who won the Oscar. But "Philadelphia" was less a romance than a courtroom drama. Last year's "Alexander" was an epic adventure with a gay subplot, but it was a badly reviewed muddle of a movie.

"Brokeback Mountain" could be the mainstream gay romance that many people have been waiting for. "Of all the gay-themed films I've watched," said Damon Romine of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, "this is the first one I've seen about two men in love, told in a way that straight people can relate to."

A tragic romance set in the '60s and '70s, "Brokeback" is about two lovers who can't overcome the obstacles to achieving a permanent union. The two rough-hewn ranch hands can express themselves physically, in secret, but they have no words for their feelings. They both suffer. And they ruin their lives.

"Repression is a main element of my movies," said Lee. "It's easier to work against something than along with something." ANNE THOMPSON (THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER)

FOCUS FEATURES

DIFFICULT LOVES: Ang Lee's film adaptation of "Brokeback Mountain" may change how movies deal with homosexuality.

Take 10

THE WASHINGTON POST'S FILM CRITICS TACKLE THIS WEEK'S BOX-OFFICE TOP 10

1 Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire

Readers of the novels may be disappointed by the omissions, but they'll enjoy the large-scale action and smaller-scale interaction. DESSON THOMSON

2 Walk the Line

For all its good music and admirable vocal impersonations, this biopic slides slowly downhill into a conventional Hollywood staple. ANN HORNADAY

3 Chicken Little

The Disney film backs away from an interesting proposition and chooses sound values — love, loyalty, tolerance and peace. STEPHEN HUNTER

4 Derailed

A thriller starring Jennifer Aniston and Clive Owen, "Derailed" is fast, slick, stupid, violent fun, without serious intention in this world. STEPHEN HUNTER

5 Zathura: A Space Adventure

Jon Favreau's film salutes the low-tech magic that lurks inside a board game. DESSON THOMSON

6 Jarhead

Sam Mendes' movie about Marines in the first Iraq War shows us an ordeal that seems almost psychedelic — call that pointless or exactly to the point. STEPHEN HUNTER

7 Get Rich or Die Tryin'

This fictionalized version of 50 Cent's life, in which the rapper plays himself, is shockingly inert. ANN HORNADAY

8 Saw II

Fans of the first "Saw" can look forward to incineration, wrist and throat slashing, bullets through brains and head-bashing. DESSON THOMSON

9 The Legend of Zorro

There's a nonsense plot and too many action sequences of no consequence all festooned on the absurd plot. STEPHEN HUNTER

10 Pride & Prejudice

Joe Wright's version of the Jane Austen novel is a boisterous, loud, dance-mad place, and Keira Knightley as Lizzie Bennet is a force of nature. STEPHEN HUNTER

WARNER BROS.

FIRST DANCE: Viktor Krum sweeps Hermione off her feet in "Harry Potter."

Turkey Coma? Here's the Cure

FILM | Thanksgiving weekend brings out all the holiday turkeys — and some poultry hits America's tables as well. Studios hold their potentially biggest movies for this long weekend. This year's pickings:

➜ **RENT.** The adaptation of the Tony Award-winning Broadway smash has one of two things written all over it: "Chicago" redux or "Fame" for grown-ups.

➜ **IN THE MIX.** R&B cutie Usher employs his flashing smile to maximum effect in this unoriginal but not unpleasant story of a DJ/playa who falls in love.

➜ **THE ICE HARVEST.** A stellar cast, including John Cusack, Billy Bob Thornton, Oliver Platt, Randy Quaid and Connie Neilson, help keep this black comedy suitably jaundiced.

➜ **YOURS, MINE AND OURS.** In this remake of the 1968 Lucille Ball-Henry Fonda (!?!) comedy about blended marriage with 18 kids, Rene Russo and Dennis Quaid hitch up for life with one very crowded bathroom.

➜ **JUST FRIENDS.** Don't put this sex comedy trying to masquerade as the work of one or more Farrelly at the top of your to-see list. The plot and point are obscure, it stars Chris Klein, Ryan

FOCUS FEATURES

PAINT IT BLACK COMEDY: Cusack and Neilson in Harol Ramis' "Ice Harvest."

RAY GNEIWEK

AN ATTACK OF THE VAPORS: Kerry Waters and Mark Rhea as Blanche and Stanley in "Streetcar," two messed-up people who drive each other insane.

A Dramatic Time of Year

Over this sleepy weekend, some local theaters will be busy

STAGE | The boozy histrionics. The sweaty brutality. The "Stella!" It's all there in Keegan Theatre's faithful presentation of Tennessee Williams' "A Streetcar Named Desire," making its final stop at Church Street Theater this weekend and next after an overseas tour. Starring real-life spouses Susan Marie Rhea (Stella) and Mark Rhea (Stanley), who co-directs with Eric Lucas (Mitch), the play works well on the theater's intimate stage. Alas, poor Blanche's (Kerry Waters) fate doesn't change in this version. But we can still hope that "kindness of strangers" thing worked out for her.

Elsewhere of interest this weekend, erstwhile "Lord of the Dance" Michael Flatley brings his flailing feet and solemn sense of Celtic history to GMU's Patriot Center on Saturday with "Celtic Tiger." Expect plangest Irish music, rat-a-tat dancing and lots of evocative PR about the strength of the Irish people.

There's more ethnic dance at George Washington University's Lisner Aditorium on Sunday afternoon when the National Ballet of Poland presents "Slask," traditional songs and dances from various regions of the country.

The revue "Forever Swing — Zoot Suit Riot" ends its run at Warner Theatre on Sunday, so hit it soon if you don't want to miss the singing, dancing, horn-honking story of fictional swing-masters the Tommy Vickers band.

After numerous extensions, due to popular demand, the horsey extravaganza "Cavalia" is really, really closing up the stables after Sunday. The big white tent near Pentagon City holds breath-taking acrobats of the two- and four-footed variety.

For kids who need to get out of the house after the feasting and football, Montgomery College's Robert A. Parilla Performing Arts Center presents "If You Give a Mouse a Cookie" on Saturday morning, a sprightly musical adaptation of the book by Laura Joffe Numeroff.

ERIN TROMPETER, ARION BERGER (EXPRESS)

Red State Revue

'Tuna' folds up its fins after 16 years of Hicksville humor

STAGE | The enduring success of "A Tuna Christmas" proves that few things are funnier than hicks. The Tuna take on the holidays, appearing here this weekend one last time, has been beloved since it appeared as a seasonal sequel to Joe Sears and Jaston Williams' "Greater Tuna."

Tuna mines laughs from the ability of its two stars to quickly change outfits and accents as they play some 20 characters, residents of the tiny town of Greater Tuna.

Tony Award nominees Sears and Williams have spent what may well have been the best years of their lives traveling around the country and sharing tales from the Tuna crypt, the fictitious third smallest town in Texas.

But they'll hang up the drawl when their current trek ends — fittingly, with a Southern run culminating with shows in three Texas cities — in early '06. Their timeless take on ordinary folk in a small town will, however, live on.

TIM FOLLOS

BILL RECORDS

Many tourists have been entertained by Sears and Williams' cross-dressing antics.

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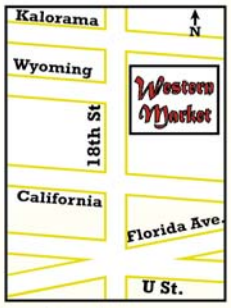

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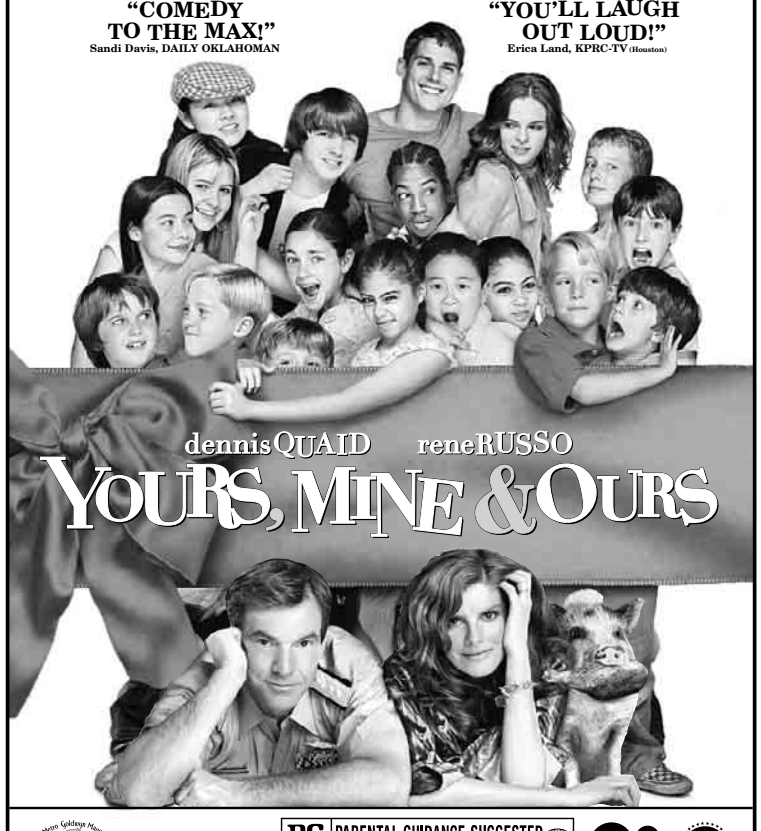

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OUT & ABOUT | The Israeli artist Aliza Olmert gives one clue as to what her installation series "Tikkun" is about: the title "Tikkun," which means, roughly, healing. In a process both impressive and mind-bendingly tedious, Olmert collected broken eggshells from a Jerusalem bakery and meticulously reconstructs them ito something rich and strange — eggs but not eggs.

Then Olmert takes computer-generated pictures of the constructions and manipulates them. For the installation, she manipulates even these, stacking, combining and ordering them to suggest something else again — galaxies, perhaps, alien life forms, really huge egg photos. You decide.

The eggshell doesn't give up its function as metaphorical cradle of life, but turns that concept into something cosmic.

COURTESY BROFMAN GALLERY

SMALL WORLD ... OR IS IT? Olmert's galaxy of broken and manipulated eggshells.

But there's another reason to come down to 16th Street this weekend. The DCJCC's annual "Everything ... But the Turkey" involves you and you and you and a whole lot of helpful other folk making starters, sides and desserts — but no birds — for the residents of the Community for Creative Non-Violence homeless shelter.

Ten bucks helps cover the cost of food and it's better to pre-register than just show up.

ARION BERGER (EXPRESS)

→ *District of Columbia Jewish Community Center, 1529 16th St. NW; volunteering opportuniy 4:30-9 p.m., $10; 202-518-9400, ext. 581 or www.dcjcc.org/volunteer/events/ebtt.php.*

HotTickets

CONCERTS, SHOWS & EVENTS ON SALE NOW

→ **THE ROOTS.** 9:30 Club, Dec. 29, $35; 703-218-6500.

→ **SESAME STREET LIVE: SUPER GROVER! READY FOR ACTION.** Patriot Center, Dec.15-18, $14-$24; 800-551-7328.

WICKED. Kennedy Center, Dec.21-Jan. 15, $42-$150; 800-444-1324.

→ **EVITA.** Warner Theatre, Dec. 27-Jan. 1, $36.50-$71.50; 800-551-7328.

→ **MATISYAHU.** 9:30 Club, Dec. 25, $25; 703-218-6500.

ANTON CORBIJN

↑ **DEPECHE MODE.** Patriot Center, Dec. 9, $49.50-$75; 800-551-7328.

→ **MONSTER JAM MONSTER TRUCK RACING.** 1st Mariner Arena, Feb. 24, $20; 800-551-7328.

HOLIDAY | WINTER WONDERLAND

KRISTOFFER RØNNERBERG

GOING NORTH: Union Station gets in the holiday spirit with "Norwegian Christmas" — music, architecture, photography and the crowd-pleasing model train set help demonstrate what winter is like in a land where the people are used to snow. The tree-lighting ceremony that kicks off the celebration at 6 p.m. on Nov. 26 involves live performances by the Washington National Cathedral Choral Society and jazz artist Lage Lund. Union Station, 50 Massachussetts Ave. NE.

LOEWS MOVIE AWARDS

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5 ***FIRST PRIZES — LOEWS SEASON PASS GOOD FOR A YEAR OF FREE MOVIES***

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British Colonial Hilton Nassau

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CHOOSE THE YEAR'S BEST IN COOL CATEGORIES INCLUDING:

BEST MOVIE THAT MADE THE AUDIENCE CHEER

BEST FIRST DATE MOVIE

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VOTING RUNS FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11 – FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16
ALL WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED ON OR ABOUT DECEMBER 28

LOEWS CINEPLEX — A CENTURY OF ENTERTAINMENT | LOEWS THEATRES | CINEPLEX ODEON | MAGIC JOHNSON THEATRES

LOEWS CINEPLEX

A CENTURY OF ENTERTAINMENT

THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA OPENS DECEMBER 9th Advance Tickets Now On Sale!

Feature presentation starts approximately 15 minutes after published showtime.

★ No Passports Accepted
Bargain Shows in ( )

Cineplex Odeon TYSONS FAIRFAX SQUARE — 8065 Leesburg Pike 703-506-9857

★ THE ICE HARVEST (R) (12:30 2:40 5:00)7:20 9:40
SHOPGIRL (R) (12:00 4:40)9:20
PRIME (PG–13) (2:30)7:00
★ RENT (PG–13) (11:30 12:20 2:20 3:10 5:05)6:50 8:30 9:40
THE CONSTANT GARDENER (R) (12:40 3:30)6:30 9:20
★ THE ARYAN COUPLE (PG–13) (12:50 3:20)6:40 9:30
★ YOURS, MINE AND OURS (PG) (11:40 2:00 4:30)7:10 9:50
CAPOTE (R) (12:25 2:50 5:10)7:30 10:00

Cineplex Odeon DUPONT CIRCLE 5 — Dupont Circle — 1350 19th Street 202-972-9956

★ THE ARYAN COUPLE (PG–13) (2:10 4:50)7:30 10:00
CAPOTE (R) (2:00 3:00 4:30 5:40)7:10 8:20 9:50
PARADISE NOW (PG–13) (2:40 5:00)7:40 10:10
★ BEE SEASON (PG–13) (2:20 4:40)7:00 9:40

MAGIC JOHNSON THEATRES CAPITOL CENTRE — 800 Shopper's way, Largo 301-324-4220

★ IN THE MIX (PG–13) (1:00 2:00 3:30 4:30)6:30 7:30 9:00 10:00
★ YOURS, MINE AND OURS (PG) (1:10 3:40)6:10 8:40 11:10
★ HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE: THE IMAX EXPERIENCE (PG–13) (1:30 2:30 5:00)6:00 8:30 9:30
ZATHURA (PG) (1:20 3:50)6:20 8:50
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) (2:15 4:15)6:15 8:15 10:15
GET RICH OR DIE TRYIN' (R) (2:20 5:20)8:20 11:00
JARHEAD (R) Rear Window Captioning (1:40 4:40)7:40 10:40
SAW II (R) (1:50 4:20)6:50 9:20
★ THE ICE HARVEST (R) (2:50 5:10)7:50 10:10
★ RENT (PG–13) (12:55 3:55)6:55 9:55

Cineplex Odeon UPTOWN — Cleveland Park — 3426 Connecticut Avenue 202-966-8805

★ HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG–13) (11:30 3:15)7:00 10:30

Cineplex Odeon WISCONSIN AVE. CINEMAS — 4000 Wisconsin Avenue N.W. 202-244-0882

★ YOURS, MINE AND OURS (PG) (2:10 4:25)6:50 9:10
DERAILED (R) (1:30 4:05)6:45 9:20
GOOD NIGHT, AND GOOD LUCK (PG) (2:30 4:30)6:55 9:40
★ THE ICE HARVEST (R) (2:25 4:35)7:00 9:15
★ JUST FRIENDS (PG–13) (2:20 4:40)7:10 9:50
JARHEAD (R) (1:40 4:15)6:50 9:30

Loews WHITE FLINT 5 — North Bethesda 310-423-1014

★ RENT (PG–13) (1:50 4:35)7:20 10:05
★ YOURS, MINE AND OURS (PG) (2:10 4:20)6:35 9:15
★ HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG–13) (2:30)6:05 9:10
★ WALK THE LINE (PG–13) (2:40)6:10 9:15
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) (2:05 4:15)6:30 9:00

Cineplex Odeon SHIRLINGTON 7 — 2772 South Randolph 703-671-0978

★ BEE SEASON (PG–13) (2:40 5:00)7:00 9:20
PRIDE & PREJUDICE (PG) (2:00 4:30)7:10 9:40
THE SQUID AND THE WHALE (R) (2:50 5:30)7:30 9:30
PRIME (PG–13) (2:30 4:40)6:50 9:10
SHOPGIRL (R) (3:00 5:10)7:40 10:00
GOOD NIGHT, AND GOOD LUCK (PG) (2:10 4:10)6:40 9:00
CAPOTE (R) (2:20 4:50)7:20 9:50

Loews GEORGETOWN — 3111 K Street, N.W. 202-346-6033

ZATHURA (PG) (12:15 3:15)
★ RENT (PG–13) (1:15 4:15)6:15 7:15 9:15 10:15
★ HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE: THE IMAX EXPERIENCE (PG–13) (12:00 12:30 3:30 4:00)7:00 7:30 10:15 10:45
★ WALK THE LINE (PG–13) (11:00 12:30 2:00 3:30 5:00)6:30 8:00 9:30 11:10
★ JUST FRIENDS (PG–13) (12:40 3:20)6:00 8:30 10:30
CHICKEN LITTLE IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3-D (G) (1:30 4:00)6:40 8:50
PRIDE & PREJUDICE (PG) (12:10 3:10)6:10 9:10
★ YOURS, MINE AND OURS (PG) (11:10 1:50 4:30)7:10 9:50
PRIME (PG–13) (11:40)6:20
JARHEAD (R) (2:50)9:20
DERAILED (R) (1:40 4:10)6:50 9:40
★ THE ICE HARVEST (R) (11:20 2:30 5:10)7:50 10:20
GOOD NIGHT, AND GOOD LUCK (PG) (2:10)7:20
SHOPGIRL (R) (4:40)10:10

Loews WHEATON PLAZA 11 — Wheaton Plaza Shopping Center, Viers Mill Rd. Btwn. Georgia & University 901-949-9202

★ RENT (PG–13) (4:00)6:50 10:00
★ IN THE MIX (PG–13) (5:00)7:20 9:50
★ JUST FRIENDS (PG–13) (3:30 5:40)8:00 10:10
★ YOURS, MINE AND OURS (PG) (3:15 5:10)7:30 9:35
★ HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE: THE IMAX EXPERIENCE (PG–13) (3:10)6:00 7:00 9:30 10:30
★ WALK THE LINE (PG–13) (3:20)6:20 9:10
DERAILED (R) (3:00 5:20)7:50 10:20
GET RICH OR DIE TRYIN' (R) (3:50)6:30 9:00
ZATHURA (PG) (4:20)7:10 9:40
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) (4:30)7:30 9:45

Tickets times and more at Fandango.com — Times Good for 11/23/05 — www.enjoytheshow.com

REGAL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP

GALLERY PLACE STADIUM 14
701 Seventh St NW — 800-FANDANGO 1721#

Adv. Tix on Sale CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale KING KONG (PG-13) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale NO PAIN NO GAIN (R) - ID REQ'D ★
RENT (PG-13) DIG (1020 1235 120 340 425) 645 730 955
IN THE MIX (PG-13) DIG (1220 245 510) 735 1005
JUST FRIENDS (PG-13) DIG (1245 300 520) 745 1010
THE ICE HARVEST (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1240 250 505) 720 935
YOURS MINE & OURS (PG) DIG (1210 235 450) 715 930
HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1000 1030 1150 1230 325 405) 700 740 1035
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) DIG (1015 1225 115 335 420) 640 725 945 1025
DERAILED (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (150 435) 710 940
ZATHURA (PG) DIG (145 415) 650 920
JARHEAD (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1025 110 400) 655 950
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) DIG (1005 230 440) 915
OC: CHICKEN LITTLE (G) DIG (1215) 705
SAW II (R) - ID REQ'D DIG 1030

BALLSTON COMMON STADIUM 12
Glebe Rd, Arlington — 800-FANDANGO 377#

Adv. Tix on Sale KING KONG (PG-13) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale NO PAIN NO GAIN (R) - ID REQ'D ★
RENT (PG-13) DIG (1235 120 340 420) 715 815 1025
IN THE MIX (PG-13) DIG (1220 250 520) 750 1015
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) DIG (1230 110 330 410) 645 705 740 940 1000
BEE SEASON (PG-13) DIG (1250 415) 700 950
PRIDE AND PREJUDICE (PG) DIG (105 225 435 525) 730 820 1020
JARHEAD (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1245 350) 650 945
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) DIG (1220 125 230 335 440 545) 755 1010
CAPOTE (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (115 425) 720 1005

BOWIE STADIUM 14
15200 Major Lansdale Blvd — 800-FANDANGO 454#

Adv. Tix on Sale CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale KING KONG (PG-13) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale NO PAIN NO GAIN (R) - ID REQ'D ★
IN THE MIX (PG-13) DIG (1040 140 410) 720 1005
YOURS MINE & OURS (PG) DIG (1200 225 455) 745 1015
JUST FRIENDS (PG-13) DIG (1045 150 445) 725 1010
THE ICE HARVEST (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1050 205 500) 750 1015
RENT (PG-13) DIG (1000 100 405) 715 1025
HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1000 1150 135 325 510) 700 845 1035
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) DIG (1220 400) 725 1035
GET RICH OR DIE TRYING (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1055 200 450) 705 735 1000 1030
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) DIG (1010 1155 1255 215 310 435 525) 810 1025
JARHEAD (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1020 120 430) 730 1040
DERAILED (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1015 115 415) 710 955
ZATHURA (PG) DIG (1025 110 355) 710 950

BETHESDA 10
7272 Wisconsin Avenue — 800-FANDANGO 569#

Adv. Tix on Sale CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale KING KONG (PG-13) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale NO PAIN NO GAIN (R) - ID REQ'D ★
RENT (PG-13) DIG (1030 130 430) 730 1030
JUST FRIENDS (PG-13) DIG (1050 150 440) 740 1010
YOURS MINE & OURS (PG) DIG (1040 140 410) 710 930
HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1000 1150 1210 1230 325 345 405) 700 720 1035 1055
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) DIG (1220 340) 735 1035
DERAILED (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (120 435) 745 1020
ZATHURA (PG) DIG (1020 110 350) 650 940
JARHEAD (R) - ID REQ'D DIG 725 1025
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) DIG (1100 115 420) 645 920

POTOMAC YARD STADIUM 16
3575 Jefferson Davis Hwy — 800-FANDANGO 690#

Adv. Tix on Sale CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale KING KONG (PG-13) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale NO PAIN NO GAIN (R) - ID REQ'D ★
HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1000 1150 1230 1230 325 405 405) 700 740 800 1035
RENT (PG-13) DIG (135 435) 735 1035
THE ICE HARVEST (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1155 225 455) 710 930
IN THE MIX (PG-13) DIG (1145 215 445) 715 940
JUST FRIENDS (PG-13) DIG (1200 235 500) 725 950
YOURS MINE & OURS (PG) DIG (1030 1245 300 515) 730 945
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) DIG (1020 1235 130 340 440) 650 750 1000
DERAILED (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1130 240 520) 800 1040
ZATHURA (PG) DIG (1040 120 400)
GET RICH OR DIE TRYING (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1130 230 530) 830 930
JARHEAD (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1250 350) 645 950
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) DIG (1000 1140 1215 200 230 415 450) 715
SAW II (R) - ID REQ'D DIG 705 935

COUNTRYSIDE STADIUM 20
45980 Regal Plaza — 800-FANDANGO 394#

Adv. Tix on Sale CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale KING KONG (PG-13) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale NO PAIN NO GAIN (R) - ID REQ'D ★
JUST FRIENDS (PG-13) DIG (1120 150 420) 725 1000
RENT (PG-13) DIG (1050 200 510) 720 830 1030
THE ICE HARVEST (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1200 250 515) 745 1010
IN THE MIX (PG-13) DIG (1215 300 530) 750 1025
YOURS MINE & OURS (PG) DIG (1030 1130 115 220 355 450) 630 730 910 940
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) DIG (1010 1210 120 340 440) 710 810 1020
HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1000 1040 1140 1220 1250 130 230 320 350 430 500) 620 700 740 820 850 950 1040
PRIDE AND PREJUDICE (PG) DIG (1240 400) 715 1015
DERAILED (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1150 240 520) 800 1035
ZATHURA (PG) DIG (1045 110 410) 640 920
CHICKEN LITTLE 3D - DIGITAL PROJECTION (G) DIG (1100 140 415) 645 930
JARHEAD (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1230 330) 650 945
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) DIG (1020 1145 100 210 345 445) 615 900

ROCKVILLE CENTER STADIUM 13
Rockville Town Center — 800-FANDANGO 248#
Free Theatre Parking- Monroe Street Garage
Weeknights after 6 PM- all day Saturday/Sunday

Adv. Tix on Sale CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale KING KONG (PG-13) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale NO PAIN NO GAIN (R) - ID REQ'D ★
YOURS MINE & OURS (PG) DIG (1100 125 415) 720 940
IN THE MIX (PG-13) DIG (1035 105 500) 750 1020
JUST FRIENDS (PG-13) DIG (1045 115 400) 715 950
RENT (PG-13) DIG (1010 110 420) 735 1035
THE ICE HARVEST (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1005 1225 245 505) 730 955
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) DIG (1020 130 435) 725 1025
HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1000 1210 1230 135 345 405 510) 720 740 845 1055 1115
PRIDE AND PREJUDICE (PG) DIG (1025 140 440) 735 1030
DERAILED (R) - ID REQ'D (1040 410) 705
ZATHURA (PG) DIG (1030 100 350) 700 945
JARHEAD (R) - ID REQ'D (120) 1000
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) DIG (1015 1220 230 455) 655 930

FAIRFAX TOWNE CENTER 10
4110 W Ox Road — 800-FANDANGO 670#

Adv. Tix on Sale CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale KING KONG (PG-13) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale NO PAIN NO GAIN (R) - ID REQ'D ★
THE ICE HARVEST (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (155 425) 725 1010
IN THE MIX (PG-13) DIG (150 420) 740 1015
BEE SEASON (PG-13) DIG (140 415) 735 1020
GOOD NIGHT AND GOOD LUCK (PG) DIG (115 405) 745 1030
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) DIG (100 200 400 500) 700 800 1000
ZATHURA (PG) DIG (135 440) 710 945
SAW II (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (140 450) 750 1025
PRIME (PG-13) DIG (145 445) 720 950
LEGEND OF ZORRO (PG) DIG (125 410) 715 1005

GERMANTOWN STADIUM 14
20000 Century Blvd — 800-FANDANGO 455#

Adv. Tix on Sale CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale KING KONG (PG-13) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale NO PAIN NO GAIN (R) - ID REQ'D ★
HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1000 1120 1150 1210 1230 300 325 345 405) 700 740 1035
IN THE MIX (PG-13) DIG (1050 130 420) 710 950
JUST FRIENDS (PG-13) DIG (1100 150 430) 720 1000
RENT (PG-13) DIG (1000 110 410) 720 1030
THE ICE HARVEST (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1045 120 400) 730 950
YOURS MINE & OURS (PG) DIG (1020 1240 250 500) 715 940
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) DIG (1010 115 415) 715 740 1015 1040
PRIDE AND PREJUDICE (PG) DIG (1010 120 420) 710 1010
DERAILED (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (145 445) 745 1040
ZATHURA (PG) DIG (1015 140 450) 745 1020
JARHEAD (R) - ID REQ'D DIG 700 1000
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) DIG (1030 100 300 515) 750 1000

UA SNOWDEN SQ STADIUM 14
9161 Commerce Ctr Dr — 800-FANDANGO 570#

Adv. Tix on Sale CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale KING KONG (PG-13) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale NO PAIN NO GAIN (R) - ID REQ'D ★
IN THE MIX (PG-13) DIG (1045 130 500) 800 1040
JUST FRIENDS (PG-13) DIG (1100 200 500) 800 1015
RENT (PG-13) DIG (1215 330) 720 1030
THE ICE HARVEST (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1030 145 445) 815 1025
YOURS MINE & OURS (PG) DIG (1015 115 400) 730 940
HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1000 1150 1210 1230 325 345 405) 700 720 740 1035
DERAILED (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (145 445) 740 1010
PRIDE AND PREJUDICE (PG) DIG (1200 300) 700 950
ZATHURA (PG) DIG (1000 1245 345)
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) DIG (1030 130 415) 815 1020
GOOD NIGHT AND GOOD LUCK (PG) DIG 645 930
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) DIG (1100 1230 215 415 530) 730 845 1030

MANASSAS STADIUM 14
11380 Bulloch Drive — 800-FANDANGO 490#

Adv. Tix on Sale CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale KING KONG (PG-13) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale NO PAIN NO GAIN (R) - ID REQ'D ★
IN THE MIX (PG-13) DIG (1120 155 420) 730 955
JUST FRIENDS (PG-13) DIG (1135 200 430) 750 1010
RENT (PG-13) DIG (1240 355) 710 1015
THE ICE HARVEST (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1155 215 435) 800 1020
YOURS MINE & OURS (PG) DIG (1140 210 445) 745 1000
HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1000 1150 1210 1230 325 345 405) 700 720 1035
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) DIG (1225 335) 735 1025
PRIDE AND PREJUDICE (PG) DIG (1205 300) 650 950
DERAILED (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1250 410) 640 935
ZATHURA (PG) DIG (1115 145 415) 645 925
GET RICH OR DIE TRYING (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1235 330) 630 920
JARHEAD (R) - ID REQ'D DIG 740 1030
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) DIG (130 400) 705 915

Times For 11/23/05 — Daily Bargain Matinees In ( ) — OC= Open Captioned DA= Descriptive Audio Available — * Pass / Discount Ticket Restrictions Apply — ©2005

HAIRY TV: Don't let anyone tell you becoming a stylist isn't ambitious. Cutting heads is such a hot screen trend that MTV and Tommy Mottola are launching a new "comedy reality series," "The Shop," about the doings of a famed Queens hair cuttery.

A Fairy Tale of New York

'Silver Bells' strives for romance, finds creepy

SEASON'S GREEDINGS | The CBS holiday-themed movie "Silver Bells" (Sun., 9 p.m., CBS) stars Anne Heche as Catherine, a gorgeous widow who encounters Christopher (Tate Donovan), a hunky Christmas-tree farmer on the streets of Manhattan.

Did I mention he was a widower?

But the path to this mistletoe hook-up is anything but smooth. Once in New York, Christy's son, Danny (Michael Mitchell), runs away to pursue his dream of being a photographer. In this magical fable, Danny becomes a squatter in a real castle in Central Park and Catherine finds him work. Meanwhile, Christy returns to bucolic Christmas-tree land, miserable that he's lost both his wife and his son.

Am I the only one who finds this all a tad creepy? We know Catherine has helped Danny deceive his heartbroken father and live as a homeless vagabond. But by the end, we're supposed to pretend that all is forgiven and that they fall in love, swept away by twinkling lights and falling plastic snow.

ERIK HEINILA

A REAL CHRISTMAS MIRACLE: Tate Donovan is wondering why the producers wrote him out of "The O.C.";' Anne Heche is admiring her lipstick in the monitor.

The film's city setting is also strangely unsettling. In "Silver Bells," Manhattan is a clean, tidy, gleaming, and above all, friendly metropolis. It's like the set of a science fiction movie where all the real New Yorkers have been replaced.

On the plus side, Heche looks wonderful here. The camera clearly loves her — perhaps too much. Her many winter costumes and perfectly lit poses make her seem more like a brittle Christmas ornament than a real human being. KEVIN MCDONGOUH (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)

amc Experience the Difference℠

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CC - Closed Captioning · DV - Descriptive Video Service · OC - Open Captioning

THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA
Tickets now on sale at the box office or www.moviewatcher.com/narnia

TYSONS CORNER 16
7850 Tysons Corner Center
703-998-4262

IN THE MIX (PG13) ✓ 11:50, 2:30, 5:30, 8:15, 10:45
JUST FRIENDS (PG13) ✓ 11:35, 2:15, 5:00, 7:45, 10:35
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG13) ✓ 11:00, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 2:45, 3:45, 4:45, 5:45, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:15, 11:15
WALK THE LINE (PG13) ✓ 12:15, 1:15, 3:30, 4:30, 6:15, 7:00, 8:00, 10:30, 11:30
BEE SEASON (PG13) ✓ 11:30, 2:00
DERAILED (R) 11:25, 1:55, 4:35, 7:20, 10:00
PRIDE & PREJUDICE (PG) 12:45, 4:00, 7:15, 10:25
PRIDE & PREJUDICE (PG) DV CC 12:45, 4:00, 7:15, 10:25
ZATHURA (PG) 11:10, 1:35, 4:15, 7:10, 9:45
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) 11:20, 12:20, 1:40, 2:40, 4:20, 5:20, 7:40, 10:20
JARHEAD (R) 11:05, 2:00, 4:55, 8:05, 11:00
THE LEGEND OF ZORRO (PG) 11:45, 2:45
SAW II (R) 9:50 PM
GOOD NIGHT, AND GOOD LUCK (PG) 4:30

HOFFMANN CENTER 22
Eisenhower Ave and Telegraph Road in Alexandria
703-998-4AMC

THE ICE HARVEST (R) ✓ 12:45, 3:10, 5:45, 8:15, 10:35
IN THE MIX (PG13) ✓ 1:25, 4:00, 7:10, 9:55
JUST FRIENDS (PG13) ✓ 2:00, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45
RENT (PG13) ✓ 1:15, 4:15, 7:30, 10:30
YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG) ✓ 12:40, 2:55, 5:15, 7:45, 10:05
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG13) ✓ 12:00, 1:00, 1:50, 2:45, 3:30, 4:30, 5:30, 6:15, 7:00, 8:00, 9:00, 9:45, 10:30
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG13) DV CC ✓ 12:00, 3:30, 7:00, 10:30
WALK THE LINE (PG13) ✓ 12:50, 1:45, 4:10, 5:00, 7:30, 8:30, 10:35
BEE SEASON (PG13) ✓ 12:05, 2:35, 5:20, 7:55, 10:25
DERAILED (R) 1:05, 3:55, 6:55, 9:40
KISS KISS, BANG BANG (R) 12:55, 3:50, 6:50, 10:00
PRIDE & PREJUDICE (PG) ✓ 12:20, 3:15, 6:20, 9:30
ZATHURA (PG) 1:20, 4:05, 6:40, 9:20
GET RICH OR DIE TRYIN' (R) 1:30, 4:30, 7:35, 10:20
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) 12:15, 1:10, 2:25, 3:30, 4:40, 5:50, 7:05, 8:05, 9:15
JARHEAD (R) 12:30, 3:35, 6:30, 9:35
THE LEGEND OF ZORRO (PG) 9:50 PM
PRIME (PG13) 10:30 PM
SAW II (R) 12:10, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20
GOOD NIGHT, AND GOOD LUCK (PG) 12:00, 2:20, 4:50, 7:25, 9:50

UNION STATION 9
Located at Union Station
703-998-4AMC

IN THE MIX (PG13) ✓ 2:00, 4:30, 7:10, 9:40
JUST FRIENDS (PG13) ✓ 12:15, 2:50, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30
YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG) ✓ 11:45, 2:00, 4:45, 7:45, 10:00
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG13) ✓ 11:15, 12:00, 2:45, 3:30, 6:15, 7:00, 9:45, 10:30
WALK THE LINE (PG13) ✓ 12:50, 4:10, 7:20, 10:20
DERAILED (R) 1:15, 4:20, 6:50, 9:25
ZATHURA (PG) 1:00
GET RICH OR DIE TRYIN' (R) 4:00, 7:15, 10:00
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) 12:30, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:35
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) DV CC 12:30, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:35

COLUMBIA MALL 14
10300 Patuxent Parkway
410-423-0520

THE ICE HARVEST (R) 10:50, 1:10, 3:30, 5:50, 8:20, 10:40
IN THE MIX (PG13) 10:10, 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:45
JUST FRIENDS (PG13) 12:00, 2:30, 5:15, 7:55, 10:35
RENT (PG13) 10:00, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:30
YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG) 11:45, 2:15, 4:30, 7:15, 9:45
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG13) ✓ 10:00, 11:00, 12:00, 1:45, 2:45, 3:45, 5:30, 6:30, 7:30, 10:15
WALK THE LINE (PG13) ✓ 1:30, 4:45, 7:45, 10:55
DERAILED (R) 11:30, 2:00, 4:35, 7:05, 9:50
PRIDE & PREJUDICE (PG) 1:25, 4:20, 7:20, 10:10
PRIDE & PREJUDICE (PG) DV CC 1:25, 4:20, 7:20, 10:10
ZATHURA (PG) 10:05, 12:05, 2:25, 4:35, 7:25
GET RICH OR DIE TRYIN' (R) 9:40 PM
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) 10:30, 12:40, 2:50, 5:00, 7:10, 9:15
JARHEAD (R) 1:15, 4:10, 7:35, 10:20
SAW II (R) 9:55 PM

SPRINGFIELD MALL 10
Loisdale and Franconia Road
703-971-3991

THE ICE HARVEST (R) ✓ 1:15, 4:30, 7:20, 9:50
JUST FRIENDS (PG13) ✓ 1:15, 4:30, 7:30, 10:10
RENT (PG13) ✓ 1:00, 4:15, 7:15, 10:20
YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG) ✓ 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:40, 10:00
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG13) ✓ 11:30, 12:00, 2:50, 3:30, 6:15, 7:00, 9:45, 10:30
WALK THE LINE (PG13) ✓ 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:10
DERAILED (R) 4:40, 8:00, 10:30
ZATHURA (PG) 1:10, 4:15
GET RICH OR DIE TRYIN' (R) 1:20
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:30, 9:40
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) DV CC 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:30, 9:40
JARHEAD (R) 7:10, 10:15

RIVERTOWNE 12
Exit 4A I-95, 1/2 mi. on Oxon Hill Rd.
703-998-4AMC

THE ICE HARVEST (R) 1:00, 3:00, 5:50, 8:30, 10:30
IN THE MIX (PG13) 12:50, 3:10, 5:40, 8:20, 10:40
JUST FRIENDS (PG13) 1:30, 4:20, 7:40, 10:10
RENT (PG13) 12:50, 4:40, 7:50, 10:45
YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG) 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 8:30, 10:45
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG13) 12:30, 1:30, 4:00, 5:00, 7:20, 8:20, 10:40
WALK THE LINE (PG13) 1:20, 4:10, 7:20, 10:20
DERAILED (R) 12:40, 3:10, 5:40, 8:00, 10:30
ZATHURA (PG) 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:50
GET RICH OR DIE TRYIN' (R) 1:20, 4:30, 7:40, 10:20
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) 1:00, 3:20, 5:30, 8:00, 10:00
SAW II (R) 10:10 PM

COUNTRY CLUB MALL 6
Country Club Mall on Vocke Rd near Route 68.
703-998-4AMC

THE ICE HARVEST (R) ✓ 1:40, 4:40, 7:40, 9:55
RENT (PG13) ✓ 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:05
YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG) ✓ 12:50, 3:00, 5:10, 8:00, 10:15
WALK THE LINE (PG13) ✓ 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:55
ZATHURA (PG) 1:30, 4:30, 7:30
ZATHURA (PG) DV CC 1:30, 4:30, 7:30
JARHEAD (R) 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:05
SAW II (R) 9:45 PM

POTOMAC MILLS 18
2700 Potomac Mills Circle, Ste 886
703-998-4262

THE ICE HARVEST (R) ✓ 12:50, 3:10, 5:50, 8:20, 10:40
IN THE MIX (PG13) ✓ 12:10, 2:50, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30
JUST FRIENDS (PG13) ✓ 11:40, 2:20, 5:00, 7:50, 10:35
RENT (PG13) ✓ 11:00, 1:20, 4:30, 7:00, 7:40, 10:15, 11:00
YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG) ✓ 11:50, 2:15, 4:40, 7:10, 9:45
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG13) ✓ 11:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:40, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:05, 6:15, 6:45, 7:30, 9:35, 10:05, 10:50
WALK THE LINE (PG13) ✓ 12:20, 1:00, 3:20, 4:15, 6:30, 7:50, 9:40, 10:55
DERAILED (R) 1:40, 4:50, 7:35, 10:10
PRIDE & PREJUDICE (PG) ✓ 1:10, 4:10, 7:20, 10:20
PRIDE & PREJUDICE (PG) DV CC ✓ 1:10, 4:10, 7:20, 10:20
ZATHURA (PG) 11:10, 1:50, 4:20, 7:20, 9:50
GET RICH OR DIE TRYIN' (R) 2:00, 5:25, 8:15, 11:00
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) 11:20, 12:15, 1:30, 2:35, 3:40, 4:50, 5:50, 7:00, 9:00
JARHEAD (R) 5:20, 8:05, 10:50
THE LEGEND OF ZORRO (PG) 1:40
SAW II (R) 8:10, 10:45

MAZZA GALLERIE
Jenifer and Wisconsin
202-537-9553

JUST FRIENDS (PG13) 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15
RENT (PG13) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
WALK THE LINE (PG13) 1:05, 4:05, 6:35, 7:05, 9:35, 10:05
PRIDE & PREJUDICE (PG) 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30
GET RICH OR DIE TRYIN' (R) 12:05, 2:35, 5:05, 7:35, 10:10
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) 12:50, 2:50, 4:50, 6:50, 9:15
PRIME (PG13) 1:30, 4:15

COURTHOUSE PLAZA 8
Courthouse and Birch Rd.
703-998-4AMC

THE ICE HARVEST (R) ✓ 12:50, 3:20, 5:50, 8:20, 10:45
JUST FRIENDS (PG13) ✓ 12:20, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:40
YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG) ✓ 12:30, 2:40, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG13) ✓ 11:15, 12:00, 2:45, 3:30, 6:15, 7:00, 9:45, 10:30
DERAILED (R) 12:10, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:15
ZATHURA (PG) 12:05, 2:30, 5:00
GET RICH OR DIE TRYIN' (R) 7:45, 10:25
GOOD NIGHT, AND GOOD LUCK (PG) 1:00, 3:25, 5:45, 8:10, 10:35

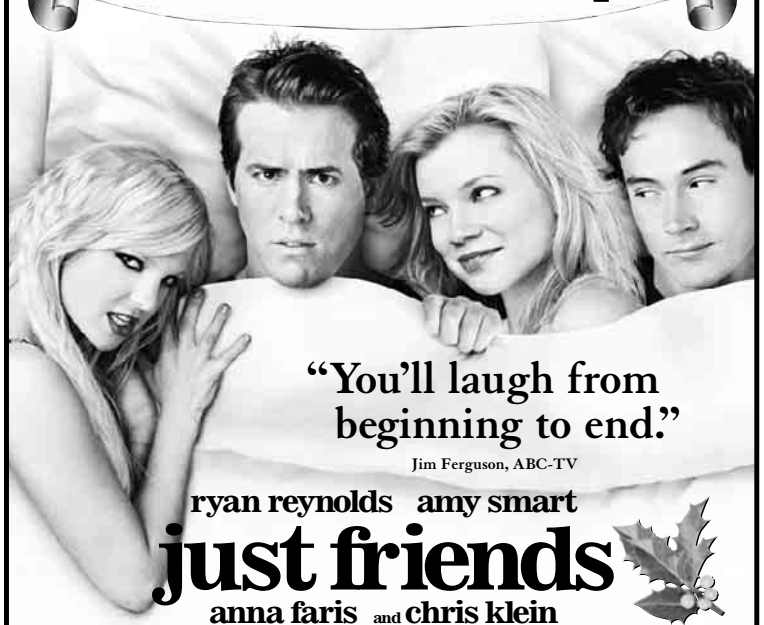
ACADEMY 8
Beltway Plaza on Greenbelt Rd., Center Court
703-998-4AMC

IN THE MIX (PG13) ✓ 1:20, 4:30, 7:50, 10:30
JUST FRIENDS (PG13) ✓ 1:30, 4:40, 7:40, 10:20
RENT (PG13) ✓ 1:00, 4:10, 7:30, 10:35
YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG) ✓ 12:40, 3:10, 5:30, 8:00, 10:10
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG13) ✓ 12:20, 4:00, 7:30, 10:45
WALK THE LINE (PG13) ✓ 12:50, 4:15, 7:25, 10:30
DERAILED (R) 7:45
ZATHURA (PG) 1:10, 4:20
GET RICH OR DIE TRYIN' (R) 10:15 PM
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) 12:30, 3:00, 5:10, 7:35, 9:50

✓-SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT - No passes or discount coupons please.

Times for Wednesday, November 23, 2005

This Holiday Season,
Find Out How To Ruin A Great Friendship.



"You'll laugh from beginning to end."
Jim Ferguson, ABC-TV

ryan reynolds amy smart
just friends
anna faris and chris klein

NEW LINE CINEMA PRESENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH CINERENTA A BENDERSPINK AND CINEZETA PRODUCTION IN ASSOCIATION WITH INFERNO DISTRIBUTION A ROGER KUMBLE FILM RYAN REYNOLDS AMY SMART "JUST FRIENDS" ANNA FARIS CHRISTOPHER MARQUETTE AND CHRIS KLEIN
CASTING BY RICK MONTGOMERY, C.S.A. MUSIC SUPERVISOR PATRICK HOULIHAN MUSIC BY JEFF CARDONI LINE PRODUCER ROB MENILLES COSTUME DESIGNER ALEXANDRA WELKER EDITOR JEFF FREEMAN, A.C.E.
PRODUCTION DESIGNER ROBB WILSON KING DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY ANTHONY B. RICHMOND, ASC, BSC CO-PRODUCER JAKE WEINER EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS TOBY EMMERICH RICHARD BRENER CALE BOYTER MARCO MEHLITZ
PRODUCED BY CHRIS BENDER JC SPINK MICHAEL OHOVEN WILLIAM VINCE BILL JOHNSON WRITTEN BY ADAM "TEX" DAVIS DIRECTED BY ROGER KUMBLE

PG-13 PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED
Some Material May Be Inappropriate for Children Under 13
SEXUAL CONTENT INCLUDING SOME DIALOGUE

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(703) 998-4AMC

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K St. between Wisconsin and 31 St. N.W.
800-FANDANGO #821

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800-FANDANGO #1721

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Greenbelt, MD
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In The Mall In Columbia
(410) 423-0520

AMC RIVERTOWNE 12
Oxon Hill, MD
(703) 998-4AMC

CONSOLIDATED MAJESTIC 20
900 Ellsworth Dr.
Silver Spring, MD
301-681-2266

KENTLANDS STADIUM
Great Seneca Hwy. &
Kentlands Blvd.
(301) 519-8868
www.kentlandsstadium8.com

LOEWS RIO 18
Gaithersburg, MD
800-FANDANGO #740

LOEWS WHEATON PLAZA 11
Wheaton, MD
800-FANDANGO #746

MUVICO EGYPTIAN 24
At Arundel Mills
(443) 755-8992

REGAL CINEMAS BETHESDA Bethesda, MD
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REGAL CINEMAS ROCKVILLE CENTER 13
Rockville,MD 800-FANDANGO #248

VIRGINIA

AMC COURTHOUSE PLAZA 8
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AMC HOFFMAN CENTER 22
Eisenhower Ave. & Telegraph Rd.
(703) 998-4AMC

AMC POTOMAC MILLS 18
Woodbridge, VA (703) 998-4262

AMC SPRINGFIELD MALL 10
Springfield, VA
(703) 971-3991

AMC TYSONS CORNER 16
7850 Tysons Corner Center
(703) 998-4AMC

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Fairfax, VA
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Reston, VA (703) 502-4060

PHOENIX THEATRES WORLDGATE 9
Herndon, VA
(703) 318-9290

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REGAL CINEMAS IN MANASSAS
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800-326-3264 #490

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City Place Mall-Wide!
Friday, November 25 • 2PM

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Holiday Crafts Corner
Fri., Nov. 25
Plus every Sat. at 2 pm til Xmas!

Magical Holiday Carolers

Entertainment Galore with Santa & More

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Win a Trip for 2 to Hawaii & the 2006 Pro Bowl Game (Feb. 9 - 13)
Register to win starting Friday!
Register to win Nov. 25 - Dec. 17.
One entry per person. Trip details are on entry forms, which are located throughout the mall including Customer Service Desk, Level 3.
Hawaii

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XX033 3x2

WeekendPass

MAGNOLIA PICTURES

DID YOU HEAR THAT? Michi (Kumiko Aso) and Kawashi (Haruhiko Kato) heed obscure messages from beyond in the atmospheric cyber-creeper "Pulse."

To Hell in A Keystroke

The J-horror film 'Pulse' taps the terror in cyber-technology

FILM | In the annals of horror, one thing is certain — the current crop of Japanese directors has changed the direction of the genre irrevocably.

Whether that's good or bad is in the eye of the presumably terrified beholder: What's shuddery to some is blah and bloodless to others. If masked slashers, dumb kids in the woods and screaming, bra-topped Paris Hiltons are your idea of a good time, please by all means avoid Kiyoshi Kurosawa's "Pulse," opening at E Street Cinema on Wednesday and further enforcing the mysterious power of J-horror's dual aces in the hole: technology and atmosphere.

Ever since Victor Frankstein harnessed electricity in the name of "Life!," ever since David Hedison zapped himself onto a housefly, ever since the television informed a little girl that "They're here," technology has been a part of horror. But only Asian directors are fully embracing the darkest possibilities of things that plug in.

In "Pulse," the friends of a man who recently committed suicide find a floppy disk that may hold the secret to his afterlife activities. As anyone picking up a stray floppy could have told these people, it launches a virus that shows freaky, enigmatic images of the dead hanging around their apartments. Then people start disappearing from all over the world, sucked into some kind of cyber vortex — or something much more sinister.

Employing more suggestion and mood than blood and screams, Kurosawa evokes the terror of the ultimate disconnection that is both the promise and threat of an increasingly plugged-in world.

ARION BERGER (EXPRESS)

➜ *Landmark E Street Cinema, 555 11th St. NW; 202-452-7672. (Metro Center)*

WHAT WON'T NBC DO? James Woods is going to check into NBC's "ER." He will guest star as Dr. Nate Lennox, a patient who is suffering from Lou Gehrig's disease. His character is a former professor of Dr. Abby Lockhart (Maura Tierney).

Television

ON TV THIS WEEKEND

HEY, SAILOR, WANNA DATE?

SECRETS OF THE DEAD: VOYAGE OF THE COURTESANS (Wed., 8 p.m., PBS) examines a colorful chapter in Australia's history. In 1789, the prison ship The Lady Juliana set sail from London carrying 200 prostitutes and female thieves and pickpockets, bound for Australia, a British penal colony. Historians show how these "fallen ladies" thrived in their new home on the bottom of the world.

LISA WOULD HAVE LOVED THIS

AMERICA'S NEXT TOP MODEL (Wed., 8 p.m., UPN) Posing as living statues in a park, the contestants get some attention — from a flock of pigeons.

O'HURLEY'S SMOOTH MOVES

It's been quite the year for John O'Hurley. The favorite of the summer's smash reality/distraction showcase "Dancing With the Stars" returns to host **THE NATIONAL DOG SHOW** (Thu., noon, NBC), time approximate following the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

THOSE MEDDLING KIDS

Nothing says Thanksgiving like a trip to the pyramids. Or maybe not. **SCOOBY-DOO: WHERE'S MY MUMMY** (Thu., noon & 7 p.m., Cartoon Network), the latest movie installment in the long-running mystery franchise, follows the gang to the Middle East.

PBS

A dramatic re-enactment of the oldest profession at work, from "Courtesans."

BOYS WILL BE MONSTERS

Proof that campus hazing is as old as the hills can be found on **TOM BROWN'S SCHOOLDAYS** (Thu., 9 p.m., BBC America), which follows Tom (Alex Pettyfer) as he navigates the cruel corridors of Rugby, a British boarding school, circa 1820.

WHEN YOU JUST DON'T CARE WHAT YOU'RE WATCHING

STAR WARS: EPISODE II — ATTACK OF THE CLONES (Fri., 8 p.m., Fox) Dazzling special effects and battle scenes don't make up for some of the worst dialogue and wooden acting ever committed to celluloid.

MEET 'THE RIP-OFFS'

You've heard of "The Incredibles." Now meet **THE X'S** (Fri., 8 p.m., Nickelodeon), a family of super-spies who battle evildoers without ever upsetting their suburban neighborhood or revealing their secret lives to their prying neighbors.

THE ONLY CURE FOR TRYPTOPHAN POISONING

TNT invites viewers to indulge their post-turkey indolence with a 12-hour, 12-episode **LAW & ORDER** (Fri., noon, TNT) marathon.

UH-OH, IT BEGINS

Reginald Owen, Gene Lockhart and Kathleen Lockhart star in the 1938 adaptation of Charles Dickens' fable **A CHRISTMAS CAROL** (Fri., 8 p.m., TCM).

GIRDING FOR WAR

The six-part series **AMERICAN SOLDIER** (Sat., 9 p.m., CMT) follows eight National Guard soldiers preparing for their deployment to Iraq.

BOOK SMART

James Earl stars in the feel-good drama **THE READING ROOM** (Sat., 9 p.m., Hallmark).

BBC AMERICA

"Tom Brown" is forced to stand around holding candles — oh, the horror!

William Campbell (Jones) fulfills his late wife's dying request that he open a reading room in a gang-ravaged neighborhood. The first few months are rocky, but Campbell perseveres with limitless patience and a budget to match. KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)

11.23.05		6:00 PM	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
LOCAL CHANNELS	WRC 4	News		NBC Nightly News	Access Hollywood	E-Ring "The Forgotten" (N)		Faith Hill: Fireflies (N)		Law & Order "Criminal Law" (N)		News	Tonight Show
	WTTG 5	Seinfeld	The Simpsons	The Simpsons	Seinfeld	★★ "Anger Management" (2003, Comedy) Adam Sandler. Premiere.				News		Geraldo at Large	Friends
	WJLA 7	News	ABC Wld News	Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Kenny Chesney: Somewhere in Sun		Lost "Collision" (N)		Invasion "The Dredge" (N)		News	(:35) Nightline
	WUSA 9	News	CBS News	9News Tonight	Ent. Tonight	Still Standing (N)	Yes, Dear (N)	Criminal Minds "Derailed" (N)		CSI: NY "City of the Dolls" (N)		News	Late Show
	WDCA 20	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	Friends	Every-Raymond	America's Next Top Model (N)		Veronica Mars "Ahoy Mateys" (N)		The Tyra Banks Show (N)		Girlfriends	Girlfriends
	WMPT 22	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Business Rpt.	Artworks-Week	Secrets of the Dead (N)		In Search of Myths and Heroes "Shangri-La; Jason & the Golden Fleece" (N)				Headwaters: Real Stories From	
	WETA 26	BBC World News	Business Rpt.	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Secrets of the Dead (N)		In Search of Myths and Heroes "Shangri-La; Jason & the Golden Fleece" (N)				Charlie Rose (N)	
	WHUT 32	Business Schl	Tavis Smiley	BBC World News	Moneywise	★★★ "Lost Boys of Sudan" (2003, Documentary)			Marcia Adams	BBC World News	Tavis Smiley	Charlie Rose (N)	
	WBDC 30	Steve Harvey	The Parkers	My Wife and Kids	Bernie Mac	One Tree Hill		One Tree Hill		Bernie Mac	My Wife and Kids	Sex and the City	Will & Grace
BASIC CABLE	A&E	City Confidential		American Justice: Ambush		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Inside the Playboy Mansion Hugh Hefner's palace.				Crossing Jordan "Secrets & Lies".	
	Animal	The Crocodile Hunter		The Most Extreme "Horrors"		Emergency Vets Hedgehog.		Venom ER Black-widow bite.		Animal Cops Houston		Emergency Vets Hedgehog.	
	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live			Access Granted	The Parkers	The Parkers	Girlfriends	Girlfriends	Soul Food		In Living Color	In Living Color
	Bravo	Risky Business	Outrageous	The West Wing "In God We Trust"		★★ "U-571" (2000, Action) Matthew McConaughey, Bill Paxton, Harvey Keitel.					Outrageous	★★ "U-571" (2000) Bill Paxton	
	Comedy	Mad TV Kathy Griffin.		Beavis-Butt.	Reno 911!	Daily Show	Colbert Report	Mind of Mencia	South Park	South Park	Drawn Together	Daily Show	Colbert Report
	Court	NYPD Blue "The Truth Is Out There"		Cops	Cops	The Investigators "Troubled Waters"		Forensic Files (N)	Forensic Files	Psychic Detect	Psychic Detect	Parco P.I.	I, Detective
	Discovery	Mega Machines "Task Masters"		Mega Machines "Technology Titans"		Dubai's Ski Resort (N)		MythBusters Ping-pong balls lift boat.		Dirty Jobs Garbage man.		Dirty Jobs Vermont cheese.	
	DISCH	Paramedics "Desert Sirens"		Trauma: Life in the ER		Big John: One Year Later		Plastic Surgery: Before and After		The Man Who Slept For 19 Years		Big John: One Year Later	
	Disney	Sister, Sister	Phil of the Future	That's So Raven	That's So Raven	★★★ "Holes" (2003, Adventure) Sigourney Weaver, Jon Voight, Patricia Arquette.					Sister, Sister	That's So Raven	That's So Raven
	E!	Young, Rich and Famous		E! News (N)	E! News	Country Divas: The E! True Hollywood Story				Party at the Palms	Party at the Palms	Howard Stern	Howard Stern
	FX	King of the Hill	King of the Hill	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	★★ "Tears of the Sun" (2003, Action) Bruce Willis, Monica Bellucci, Cole Hauser.					★★ "Tears of the Sun" (2003, Action) Bruce Willis.		
	HGTV	Wknd Warriors	Landscapers	Curb Appeal	House Hunters	Kitchen Trends	I Want That! (N)	Buy Me (N)	Cash in the Attic	Designed to Sell	What You Get	Design on a Dime	FreeStyle
	Family	7th Heaven "Dangerous Liaisons"		Smallville "Tempest"		★★★ "Mrs. Doubtfire" (1993) Robin Williams. An estranged dad poses as a nanny to be with his children.						The 700 Club	
	History	Frontier: The Decisive Battles		Home for the Holidays		The Presidents "1789-1825"		The Presidents "1825-1849"		The Presidents "1849-1865"		The Big Build "The Fort" (N)	
	Lifetime	The Golden Girls	The Golden Girls	"Living With the Enemy" (2005, Suspense) Sarah Lancaster.				"Mind Over Murder" (2005, Suspense) Tori Spelling, Dean McDermott.				Will & Grace	Will & Grace
	MTV	Pimp My Ride	Pimp My Ride	Direct Effect		Hard Rock Live	Wrld-Aeon Flux	Viva La Bam	Viva La Bam	Jackass "Gumball Rally"		True Crime	True Life
	NICK	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	The Adventures of Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius Game show.				Full House	Fresh Prince	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	The Cosby Show
	SCIFI	Stargate SG-1 "Absolute Power"		Firefly "Trash"		Firefly "The Message"		Firefly "Heart of Gold"		Firefly "Objects in Space"		★★ "Dolly Dearest" (1992)	
	SPIKE	(5:00) ★★★ "Crocodile Dundee"		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation		★★★ "GoldenEye" (1995) Pierce Brosnan. James Bond enters Russia to retrieve stolen weapon codes.					
	TBS	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Every-Raymond	Every-Raymond	Every-Raymond	Every-Raymond	Every-Raymond	Every-Raymond	Sex and the City	Sex and the City	(:10) ★★ "Angel Eyes" (2001) (PA)	
	TLC	Martha (N)		Face Eating Tumor		Psychic Witness Double murder.		Psychic Witness		Mostly True Stories: Urban Legends		Psychic Witness Double murder.	
	TNT	PGA Golf PGA Grand Slam of Golf -- Final Round. From Poipu Bay Golf Course in Kauai, Hawaii. (Live)								★★★ "The Legend of Bagger Vance" (2000) Will Smith, Matt Damon.			
	USA	(4:00) ★★★ "Apollo 13" (1995)		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		Law & Order: Criminal Intent	
	VH1	The 40 Hottest Rock Star Girlfriends... and Wives Beautiful partners.				★ "Showgirls" (1995, Drama) Elizabeth Berkley, Kyle MacLachlan.				But Can They Sing?		Celebrity Parties	
SPAN.	TELEM	Sala de Parejas	Noti-Telemndo	La Tormenta		El Cuerpo del Deseo		Corazón Partido	Decisiones Casos inspirados en sucesos de la vida real.			Noti-Telemndo	Laura
	UNIV	¡Que Locura!	Noticiero Univ	Piel de Otoño Mujeres valientes.		Contra Viento y Marea		La Esposa Virgen		Don Francisco Presenta		Primer Impacto	Noticiero Univ.
SPORTS	ESPN	SportsCenter (Live)		NBA Shootaround	NBA Basketball Phoenix Suns at Houston Rockets. From Toyota Center in Houston.					College Basketball EA Sports Maui Invitational Final -- Teams TBA.			
	ESPN2	Basketball	Gamenight	College Basketball Preseason NIT Semifinal -- Drexel vs. Duke. (Live)				College Basketball Preseason NIT Semifinal -- Memphis vs. UCLA. (Live)					Basketball
	CSN	Totally Football	SportsNite	NBA Basketball Washington Wizards at Orlando Magic. (Live)					Wizards Post.	SportsNite		Penn St. Story	Best-Sports
NEWS	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		The Situation Room		Paula Zahn Now		Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360			
	FNC	Special Report (Live)		The Fox Report With Shepard Smith		The O'Reilly Factor (Live)		Hannity & Colmes (Live)		On the Record-Van Susteren		The O'Reilly Factor	
	MSNBC	The Abrams Report		Hardball		Countdown With Keith Olbermann		Rita Cosby Live & Direct		Scarborough Country		The Situation With Tucker Carlson	
MOVIES	AMC	(5:30) ★★ "Dr. T & the Women" (2000, Comedy) Richard Gere. 'R'				★★ "Two Weeks Notice" (2002) Sandra Bullock, Hugh Grant. 'PG-13'				(:15) ★★★★ "When Harry Met Sally..." (1989) Billy Crystal, Meg Ryan. 'R'			
	TCM	★★ "Her Highness and the Bellboy" (1945) Hedy Lamarr. 'NR'				★★★ "Same Time, Next Year" (1978) Ellen Burstyn, Alan Alda. 'PG'				(:15) ★★★ "The Sunshine Boys" (1975) George Burns. 'PG' (DVS)			
	HBO	(5:45) ★★ "Spanglish" (2004) Adam Sandler, Tea Leoni. 'PG-13'				Curb-Enthsm	Curb-Enthsm	Curb-Enthsm	Curb-Enthsm	(:05) Inside the NFL (N)		(:15) Rome "Kalends of February"	
	MAX	(5:45) ★★ "Double Bang" (2001) William Baldwin. 'R'		(:45) ★★★ "Love Actually" (2003, Romance-Comedy) Alan Rickman, Bill Nighy. 'R'						★★★ "Ray" (2004, Biography) Jamie Foxx, Regina King. 'PG-13'			
	SHOW	★★ "Out of Time" (2003) Denzel Washington. iTV. 'PG-13'				★ "National Lampoon's Dorm Daze" (2003) Tatyana Ali.			(:45) ★★ "The Comedians of Comedy" (2005, Documentary) iTV. 'NR'				Intermission 'R'
	TMC	(4:45) Godsend	★★ "The Waiting Game" (2000) Will Arnett. 'NR'			★★ "Getting Off" (1998, Drama) Christine Harnos. 'NR'			★★★ "Philadelphia" (1993, Drama) Tom Hanks, Jason Robards. 'PG-13'				(:35) Phat Beach
	STARZ!	(4:50) Cellular	(:35) ★★ "Blade: Trinity" (2004, Horror) Wesley Snipes. 'R'				(:35) On the Set	★★ "Van Helsing" (2004, Fantasy) Hugh Jackman. 'PG-13'				(:15) ★★ "Rounders" (1998) 'R'	
	ENCORE	(4:35) ★★★ "The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King" (2003) 'PG-13'				★★★ "Good Will Hunting" (1997, Drama) Matt Damon. 'R'				(:10) ★★★ "Philadelphia" (1993, Drama) Tom Hanks. 'PG-13'			

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Associations

PROGRAM DIRECTOR
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

Program Director of National Council of Catholic Women, a national lay organization, founded in 1920. The Program Director develops programs and resources for diocesan and parish initiatives, acts as organization representative to collaborative religious and secular coalitions, researches and educates membership to issues of interest consistent with NCCW mission statement. Qualifications: A working knowledge of Catholic teaching essential, experience in a non-profit religious or secular environment desired, oral and written communication skills, experience in producing educational and project driven material, capacity to build local support, presentation ability to large and small groups necessary. Equal opportunity employer in northern Virginia. Position effective immediately. Interested applicants should send letter of introduction, salary requirements and resume to Executive Director, 200 N. Glebe Rd., Arlington, VA 22203 or fax to 703-224-0991.

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JOBS

Associations

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

Development Director: National Council of Catholic Women seeking individual to develop and implement long term fundraising plan for membership based organization. Qualifications: Working knowledge of Catholic Church structure and institutions, experience in design and implementation of multi-faceted fundraising strategies for a national or regional nonprofit organization including individual contributions program, major gifts, and grants. Ability to work effectively with leadership, membership and staff. Position effective immediately. Open to part-time/flexible schedule. Interested applicants should send letter of introduction, resume and salary requirements to Executive Director, 200 N. Glebe Rd., Arlington, VA 22203 or fax to 703-224-0991.

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Debt Collector - MD

Wolpoff & Abramson, Large national law firm seeks talented 3rd party DEBT COLLECTORS to join our team in Rockville, MD, headquarters office! We are looking for candidates with collections experience and/ or college degree. We offer the following:

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Agriculture Federal Credit Union is seeking individuals to fill the following positions at our Maryland and DC locations:

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AFCU has an excellent benefits package and is Metro accessible. Credit Check required. Please fax Human Resources at 202.479.3821 or email resumes and salary requirements to Sonyah@agriculturefcu.org

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A new DC hair salon is looking for a cleaner to come in 3 times per week. Cleaning and organizing skills req'd. Call 202-610-3838 or 202-438-4349 to schedule appointment.

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SUPERINTENDENT

For local general contractor. Must have 10yrs exp. Salary commensurate w/ exper. Benes. Call 301-220-2827

DANCERS— Wanted for Gentleman's Club (PG County). $300-$500/night. No exp. needed. **240-286-3660 or 301-568-8500**

DATA SERVICE TECHNICIAN

Requirements: Performs various data conversions on UNIX platform and MS Office Applications. Salary depends on technical knowledge and experience. Mail or fax resume to: Mike Mikesh 703-734-9620 or mail to 7700 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, Va. 22043

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PT Downtown. See our WEB site ingberdental.com FAX 202-331-0262

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DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

P/T & F/T Director of Education needed to supervise the educational programs of a non-public special education program located in Montgomery County for students with Autism. The candidate will oversee the implementation of the Maryland Voluntary State Curriculum in community based classrooms. Masters degree with at least 3 yrs teaching exper. in Special Education. Valid teaching credentials req'd from MD State Dept. of Education. Send letter of interest & resume to HR: 301-762-5230 or visit us online at: www.csaac.org.

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WASHINGTON, DC

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Hotel

Four Seasons Hotel
WASHINGTON, DC

Part-Time Pastry Cook

Looking for an individual to join our pastry team. Part-time position. Must have pastry school education or 1-3 years professional pastry experience in luxury hotel or dining establishment. Apply in person at 1111 29th St. NW,Washington, DC. Applications accepted Tues.,Wed., Thurs. from 10am-4pm.

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JOBS

Insurance

COMMERCIAL P&C ACCOUNT MANAGER

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Ideal candidates should possess strong communication skills, type minimum of 65 words per minute, excellent grammatical and proofreading abilities, and law experience is required.

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Ideal candidates should have strong skills in data entry, word processing, strong command of grammar, punctuation, spelling and proofreading skills, and law experience is preferred.

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Suite 500
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College Park, MD 20740
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Fax 301-345-4292

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Licensed/certified in DC. 5 yrs exp. Must have thorough knowledge of HIV & AIDS. Able to conduct physicals and write scripts. Work independently.

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SPRINGFIELD — Bsmt in TH, FBA, Table, No Pets, nr. Metro. $595/mo all utls incl. Call 703-203-8523.

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SW/4742 S. Capitol Terrace— 2 BR, 1 BA, $685 + gas + electric. Private entrance, metro access.
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Culinary Arts

Timed Turkey

The pop-up turkey timer is one family's time-tested business

The late Tony Volk seldom left this agricultural town. But once again this Thanksgiving, the invention he promoted will appear in millions of American kitchens.

Determined to make turkeys as easy to cook as a TV dinner, he was a pioneer of the pop-up poultry timer.

This time of year, that means both fortune and grief for his oldest son, Anthony. Since his father's death in 1991, the 58-year-old has been chief executive officer of closely held Volk Enterprises Inc. The company has annual revenue of about $100 million and is the only U.S. maker of the little breast-mounted gadgets that sell for a dime apiece to turkey processors. They are designed so that a red plastic temperature indicator, shaped like a tiny umbrella, pops out at 180 degrees, when a bird is fully cooked.

Volk, who manages the company with his three brothers, relishes the fact that Volk pop-ups will be embedded in some 30 million of the 46 million turkeys headed into ovens this Thanksgiving. Yet during holiday food shows, the pop-up seldom comes in for praise. In her recipe for "Perfect Roast Turkey," Martha Stewart advises fans to toss the little timer. "An instant-read thermometer is a much more accurate indication of doneness," Stewart said.

However, Yvonne Vizzier Thaxton has long relied on the pop-up at home. "It's not supposed to tell you the turkey is perfect," said Thaxton, a poultry science professor at Mississippi State University. "It's supposed to tell you it's safe to eat."

The pop-up's patriarch was born on a South Dakota farm and played a big role in convincing American homemakers to buy more turkey. Tony Volk became manager of a turkey processing plant in Turlock in 1951. Soon he set up a business of his own to pursue turkey-related innovations.

In the late 1960s, he was beaten to the punch in marketing the first pop-up timer.

That distinction fell to Dun-Rite Co., a tiny company in Fresno, Calif. The Dun-Rite pop-up contained a spring-mounted plunger whose lower tip was embedded in a metallic bead designed to liquefy at 180 degrees and release the plunger. Dun-Rite was sold in 1973 to 3M Co., the big St. Paul., Minn., conglomerate. It refined the pop-ups and put its marketing muscle behind them.

VOLK ENTERPRISES

FOR THE BIRDS: Volk timers will likely be used in some 30 million turkeys this year.

> "It's not supposed to tell you the turkey is perfect. It's supposed to tell you it's safe to eat."
>
> YVONNE VIZZIER THAXTON, MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY.

After experimenting with a device that gradually sank into the turkey as it cooked, Tony Volk shifted to a pop-up timer of his own design, similar to the Dun-Rite/3M device. The Volk family business was sued by 3M for patent infringement in 1982, but the two companies settled. Thanks to Tony Volk's contacts in the turkey business, his own timer business took off and, a few months before his death from cancer in 1991, Volk Enterprises acquired 3M's pop-up business.

The Volk sons have worked hard to boost the pop-up's respectability and develop more sensitive heat-sensing equipment. Still, Steve Volk worries that adding too many bells and whistles to the simple turkey timer will only spark more culinary confusion. "To change it into some high-tech device may not fly," he said.

ROBERT TOMSHO (THE WALL ST. JOURNAL)

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LOOK out

Pedaling the World

Feats

For a U.K. biker, traveling the globe was a test of strength

It may feel like a long commute back from the office some evenings, a tedious trip in traffic, pelting rain and darkness. Now, just imagine if the journey covered 50,000 miles and took four years.

That's what Alastair Humphreys is doing to get back home — although the weather and traffic weren't quite the same in the middle of the Sahara as on suburban freeways.

Humphreys set off from northern England back in 2001 to journey around the world by bicycle. As of last Friday, he had made it to Paris — the long way around, through Europe, Africa, the Americas and Asia — and the finish line is finally in sight.

"I was at university and it was pretty easy, trundling along towards getting a job after that, I just wanted to do something a bit more difficult and challenging," the 28-year-old Humphreys said during a recent stop in Geneva.

Riding a bike around the world is not a new idea. As far back as 1884, Thomas Stevens left San Francisco aiming to be the first man to bicycle across the United States. When he reached Boston, he couldn't stop — and carried on across the rest of the globe, taking three years to finish.

The era may be different now, but the adventure — or the risk — is hardly diminished. Humphreys left a whole life behind: an offer of a teaching job to help pay off student debts, girlfriend, friends, family, security. All to raise money for children's charity Hope and Homes, and a distant dream of perhaps making it back again one day having traversed the globe.

COURTESY OF ALASTAIR HUMPHREYS/AP

Alastair Humphreys reads a map during a 2002 break in a Sudanese desert. He said his travels through Africa and South America were particularly harrowing.

"The first year I found really quite lonely and quite hard," he said.

By saving student loans he raised $12,500, which lasted through four years on a diet of bread, bananas, pasta and popcorn — along with an emergency supply of cash rolled up inside the bike saddle.

Humphreys is writing a book about the journey. He hopes to find a part-time job, maybe teaching, to tide things over as he tries to make his way as a travel writer.

Something else is drawing him back, too. Something that caused tears on departure.

"The thing is, there's quite a chance I might get back together with my ex-girlfriend," he said.

SAM CAGE (AP)

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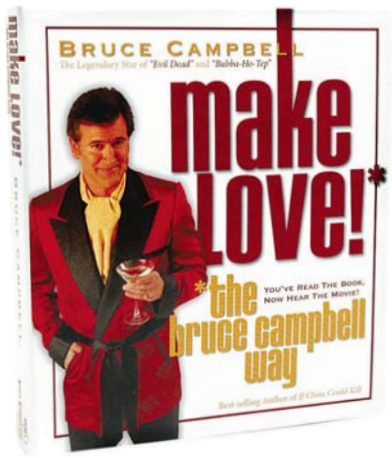
Join the Joyride

Mission: Shoppable

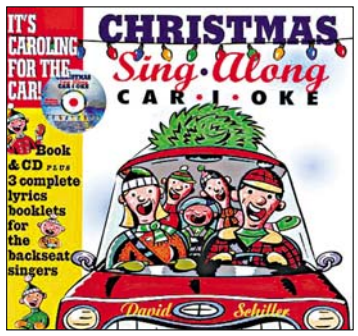
Who doesn't love a road trip? From the elaborate negotiations over the backseat to the endless iterations of the License Plate Game (and the Horse Game, and the Alphabet Game), it's always good, clean, violence-inducing family fun. Here are some products to make the road a little smoother. KRISTEN PAGE-KIRBY (EXPRESS)

TIRED OF inflatable travel pillows that smell like plastic? Lay your weary head on the travel-sized Tempur-Pedic ComfortPillow (14" by 10"). The conforming foam is the perfect blend of squishy and firm. **($80, TEMPURPEDIC.COM)**



INSTEAD OF MERELY reading "Make Love the Bruce Campbell Way," the eponymous B-movie star called in a bunch of actor pals and recorded his novel as a full-fledged radio play. This one's not for the kiddies, though. **($24, AMAZON.COM)**

WHY PLAY A GAME with your sister when you can play with a machine? This 20 Questions handheld game will freak you out with its evil-robot guessing powers. **($10, AMAZON.COM)**



BRING THE PAIN with "Christmas Sing-Along Car-i-oke." The book includes a CD and three song books, so the kids have one less thing to fight about. **($11, AMAZON.COM)**

STRADDLING THE LINE between gross and awesome is the Internet Urinal. Designed for gaming geeks who never leave their computers, it's also handy for car emergencies. A converter allows use by small-bladdered ladies. **($4, THINKGEEK.COM)**

Technology

Pimp My TiVo Remote

Someone has to call you for that personalized ring tone of "Baby Got Back" to announce your style, but **SKINIT** lets you broadcast youness constantly. Pick an image from the collection at Skinit.com — a vast repository including everything from cute kitties to pimp chains — or upload your own pic, and it'll be cut to fit whatever cell phone, MP3 player, PDA or other gizmo you have ($10 to $20, free shipping). They don't have gooey, sticky backs like stickers or tape, but are more like ColorForms, and easily peel off when, say, you're tired of staring at your ex on your TiVo remote. VICKY HALLETT (EXPRESS)

Beauty

For Mid-Mall Showers

For the all-natural shopper in you, the organic cosmetic company Kiss My Face has teamed with Old Navy to offer the **ON BODY** line of bath products. While none of the products are particularly innovative, most would be nice stocking stuffers for the tween who's outgrown the syrupy-sweet smells of Bath and Body Works and isn't quite ready for Sephora. The Pear and White Tea moisturizer ($8), however, is worth avoiding — it's greasy, yet lacks any moisturizing properties. And while the Green Tea and Mint body scrub ($8) smelled delicious, it's overly abrasive to the point of pain. K.P.K.

Getting Married? Express is seeking couples with weddings or commitment ceremonies taking place in the next six months for B.I.O. (By Invitation Only), a new page of couple profiles that runs Friday. Please send your favorite informal photo (wacky is fine, professionally shot is not), plus your name, contact info and the ceremony date to weddings@readexpress.com. Then we'll contact you with some questions. Not everyone who sends in a picture can be in the paper — sorry! Also, please don't send any original photos, because we can't return them.

Look out | Voices

Baggage Check

ANDREA BONIOR, PH.D.

Love Doesn't Come Standard

You wrote in a previous column about how it's important not to lower your standards when it comes to finding a good mate. But can't this lead to a dangerous way of thinking? Hypothetically, if someone always finds something wrong with who they're dating — like where he went to school or how he dresses — couldn't this lead to more unhappiness than if someone were to "settle?" — ANONYMOUS, ARLINGTON

There are standards, and then there are things people claim are standards but are really just excuses for not opening up to someone. Rare is the happy couple whose qualities would have perfectly fit a premeditated checklist; after all, if we could calculate everything, where could passion possibly fit in? Standards about how good you feel with someone, how well they treat you and how much affection you feel for them are incredibly important. Standards about what car they drive or how they pronounce Chipotle are where someone's bound to go wrong, as those qualities quickly become irrelevant when the really good stuff — the intangible magic that makes you miss someone after only an hour apart — comes into play.

I married at a young age, not for love but because my wife was pregnant with my now 4-year-old son. Each year I've grown to love her more than the last. But I'm young and I often wonder what it would be like if I didn't marry, and I have temptations and thoughts of dating someone new, someone slightly more attractive or more successful in their work. My friends often tell me I made a big mistake and I should've just paid child support and given up on my Christian values of not having a child out of wedlock. As I go though life as a married man with bills, housing problems and intimacy issues, I often wonder if I did the right thing. What do you think? — DOUBTING IN D.C.

Well, let's get one thing straight: As every bad Gen-X sitcom illustrates, bills and housing problems aren't restricted to the married set. Nor are malaise, second-guessing one's life direction, or the crown jewel of all relationship nausea — intimacy issues. The truth is, this isn't just about that ring on your finger; it's about how you see the arc of your life, your values, your goals and your reasons for getting up in the morning. It's impossible for me or your friends to tell you what's missing for you right now, and whether your current ennui is part of a depression, a temporary itch, an understandable parents-of-preschooler slump in your love life or a more substantial rethinking of a decision that maybe really was the wrong one. You may hate to hear this, but I urge you to speak to a counselor. Only in listening to yourself and figuring out what you really want, and what you don't, will you be able to figure out if what you need is a mai-tai-laden vacation, couples counseling, a divorce or something in between.

Send your mental health and emotional wellness questions to Andrea Bonior, Ph.D. at **baggage@readexpress.com**. This column is not a substitute for one-on-one care.

Letters

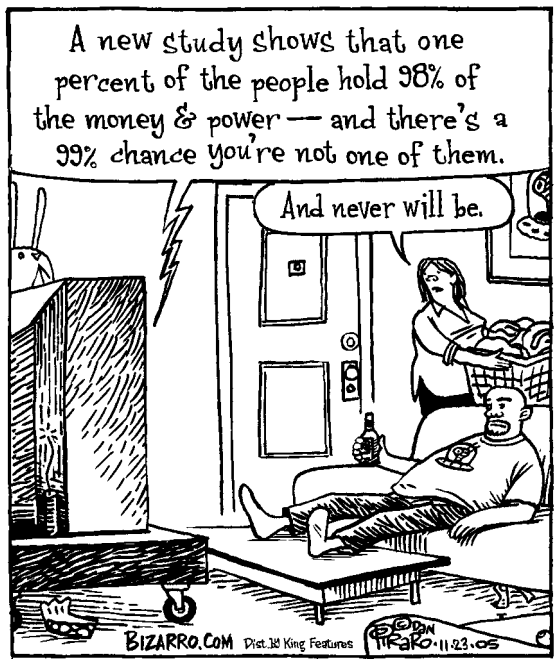
Dead Men Can't Move

I JUST WANTED TO STATE that perhaps the sentence "Blues master R.L. moves aside for his son" in Monday's Top Stops section about Duwayne Burnside ("It Runs in the Family") was a bit off the mark. R.L. Burnside died on Sept. 1, 2005. Kind of hard to move aside at this point.

—PAUL F. BOVE
Washington, D.C.

WRITE TO EXPRESS: Include name, hometown and telephone number. Submissions may be edited. E-mail to inbox@readexpress.com or mail to Express Letters, PO Box 17370, Arlington, VA 22216.

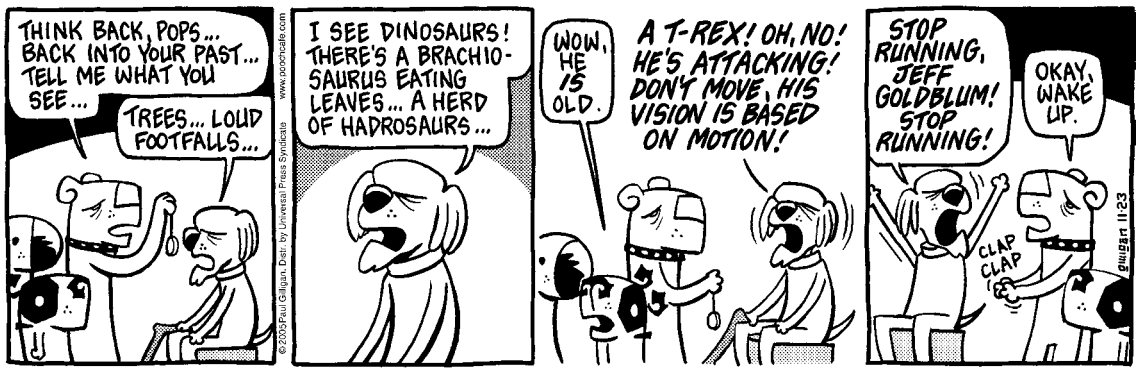
Bizarro | *Dan Piraro*



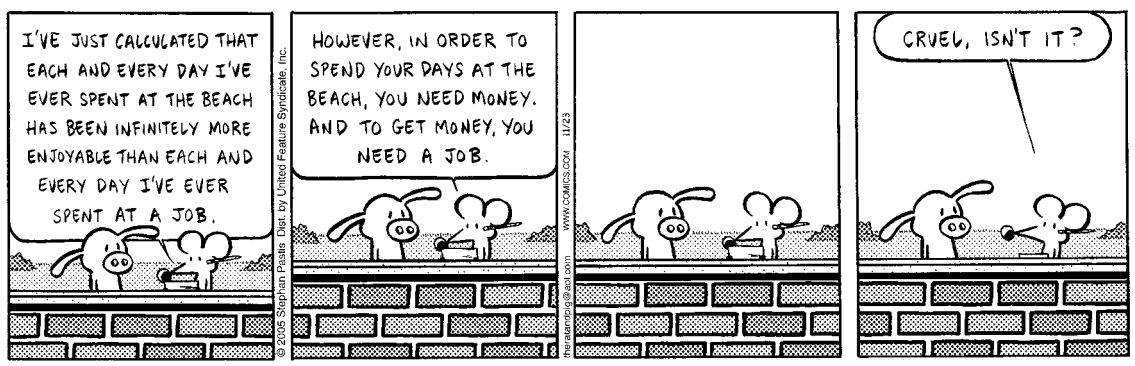
Cornered | *Mike Baldwin*

"We want someone who can multitask. During our interview I'd like you to fill out those forms and have a physical."

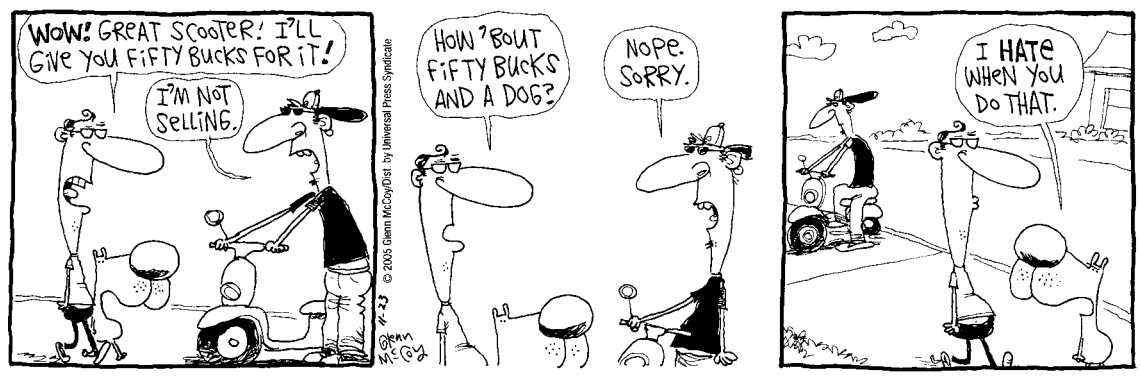
Pooch Cafe | *Paul Gilligan*



Pearls Before Swine | *Stephan Pastis*



The Duplex | *Glenn McCoy*



Look out

XBOX 360 FRENZY

"Two guys jumped to the front of the line when the store opened. They were clubbed and eaten by the rest of us."

THELETTERD.BLOGSPOT.COM REFLECTS ON HIS FORAY TO BEST BUY TO PURCHASE THE XBOX 360 TUESDAY MORNING.

THE Blog LOG

X-GATE

"The only thing I did was post the video. I did not give my opinion on the matter nor did I suggest anything. Bloggers like Michelle Malkin linked to the video and suggested malice on the part of CNN."

THEPOLITICALTEEN.NET RESPONDS TO CRITICISM THAT HE ACCUSED CNN OF MALICIOUS INTENT WHEN AN "X" APPEARED BRIEFLY OVER VICE PRESIDENT CHENEY'S FACE DURING A SPEECH MONDAY. CNN SAID IT WAS A TECHNICAL GLITCH.

MAD GENIUS

"If necessity is the mother of invention, then 'having too much free time to spare' is clearly its bastard father."

FACEPALM.BLOGSPOT.COM IS BAFFLED BY THE, ER, UNIQUE CREATIONS AT FREEPATENTSONLINE.COM/CRAZY.HTML,

WAR IS NO SPORT

"Some people seemed to come at the willy pete story like the American military had somehow gotten busted on a technicality. ... They seem to think that war is a sport with rules and referees and instant replay."

THESHAPEOFDAYS.COM ON U.S. CITIZENS' REACTIONS TO THE USE OF WHITE PHOSPHORUS AS A WEAPON IN FALLUJAH

GIANT PANDA PRIDE

"Our lineup ... would eat the 'Stick for breakfast. While Tai Shan freezes its little panda ass off in D.C. this winter, Su Lin will be lying out in our current 80 degree weather."

WEST COAST BLOG HEADEASTYOUNGMAN.BLOGSPOT.COM BOASTS OF SAN DIEGO'S PANDA SUPERIORITY. THE CITY'S ZOO HAS SIX GIANT PANDAS, INCLUDING BUTTERSTICK (AKA TAI SHAN) CONTEMPORARY, SU LIN.

Horoscope

By Stella Wilder

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Avoid extravagance in your daily life at this time. Others may be somewhat critical of your methods, but you're on the right track.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Don't be too impersonal, even when you are doing a job that demands objectivity. You can still feel while reserving judgment.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Now is the time for you to get further in touch with your own physical power. You can discover a talent that was previously hidden away.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Someone may actually be trying to upset you in some way, thinking that this will get you involved. Avoid knee-jerk reactions.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You may have an ideal meeting with someone who is interested in joining forces with you in the days or weeks to come. Begin planning specifics.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You're after more than what you've been getting lately, but the only way you can be satisfied is to deal honestly and directly with superiors.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Your romantic turn of mind can make this a memorable day for yourself and that special partner. Pull out all the stops; enjoy yourself!

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You may find a friend difficult if not downright impossible to handle. It's time, then, for you two to keep your distance — temporarily.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You may find yourself racing against the clock once again — but once you finish up you're sure to enjoy your free time all the more.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You may have to pick a partner of sorts. Choose wisely, for this person will surely make the difference between success and failure.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) You will get much further working closely with others rather than against them. Teamwork can benefit all involved in a new way.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) You'll have trouble washing your hands of a difficult situation. Your involvement isn't over yet, and you must be willing to go the distance.

DO **find out what Angelina Jolie has learned about genocide.** In September 2003, U.N. Goodwill Ambassador Jolie trekked the Congo to see the effects of war there. Now the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum has an online exhibition of the trip (www.ushmm.org), with Jolie audio clips from her journal.

express

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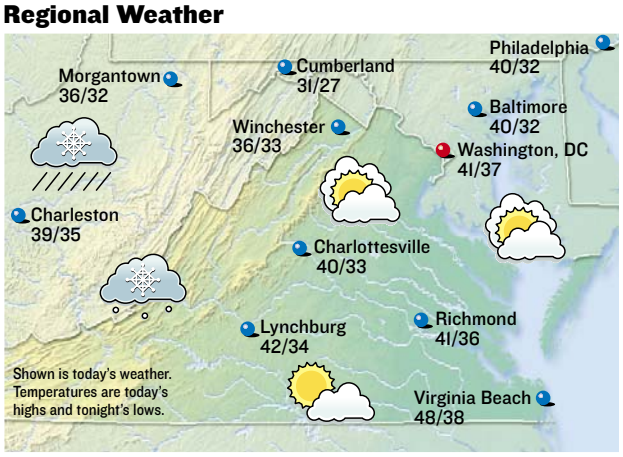
5 Day Forecast for the Washington Area

Today	Tonight	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Partly sunny, cold	Cloudy, a bit of snow and rain late	Partly sunny, an a.m. shower	Partly sunny; colder	Partly sunny and cold	Partly sunny
41°	37°	52° / 26°	36° / 26°	40° / 26°	43° / 33°

Regional Weather



Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2005

Almanac

Washington, D.C., through 4 p.m. Tues.

Temperature

High	50°
Low	43°
Normal high	55°
Normal low	38°
Average humidity	62%

Precipitation

24 hours ending 4 p.m.	0.63"
Month to date	1.35"
Normal month to date	2.23"
Year to date	40.47"
Last year to date	38.98"
Normal year to date	35.50"

For up-to-the-minute weather, see: washingtonpost.com/weather

Regional Forecast

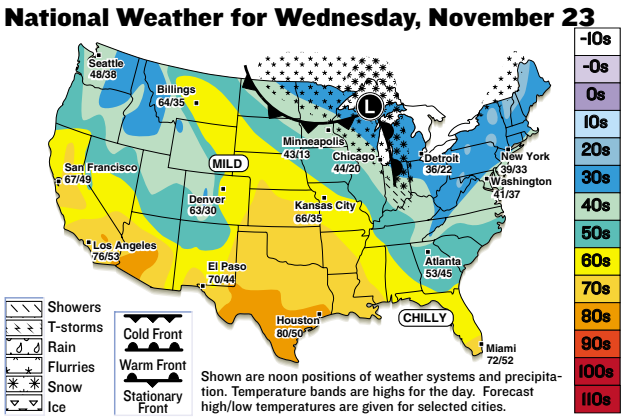
D.C. Metro: Today, partly sunny, brisk, cold. High 41. Wind west 10-20 mph. Tonight, cloudy, a bit of rain and snow late. Low 37.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise today	6:59 a.m.
Sunset tonight	4:49 p.m.
Moonrise today	11:45 p.m.
Moonset today	12:58 p.m.

Last	New	First	Full
Nov 23	Dec 1	Dec 8	Dec 15

National Weather for Wednesday, November 23



Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day. Forecast high/low temperatures are given for selected cities.

National Cities

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Thur. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	53/45/s	61/31/pc
Boston	39/32/pc	44/30/r
Chicago	44/20/r	26/13/sf
Dallas	76/52/s	74/44/s
Denver	63/30/s	56/25/s
Honolulu	85/71/sh	85/71/pc
Los Angeles	76/53/pc	74/52/pc
Miami	72/52/s	77/61/s
New York City	39/33/pc	44/27/r
Orlando	64/47/s	77/54/s
Seattle	48/38/c	50/42/pc

World Cities

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Thur. Hi/Lo/W
Amsterdam	48/39/sh	52/39/r
Athens	57/52/r	55/50/r
Berlin	41/32/pc	37/27/pc
Buenos Aires	81/57/c	75/59/s
Calgary	55/34/s	53/29/s
Dublin	52/41/pc	46/32/sh
Geneva	37/18/pc	30/26/pc
Moscow	34/22/c	31/28/pc
Rome	50/43/sh	52/39/r
Sydney	69/66/c	73/67/c
Tokyo	56/45/pc	61/45/s

s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

Look out People

BRANIMIR KVARTUC/AP

Mariah is glad they love her again.

COMEBACKS

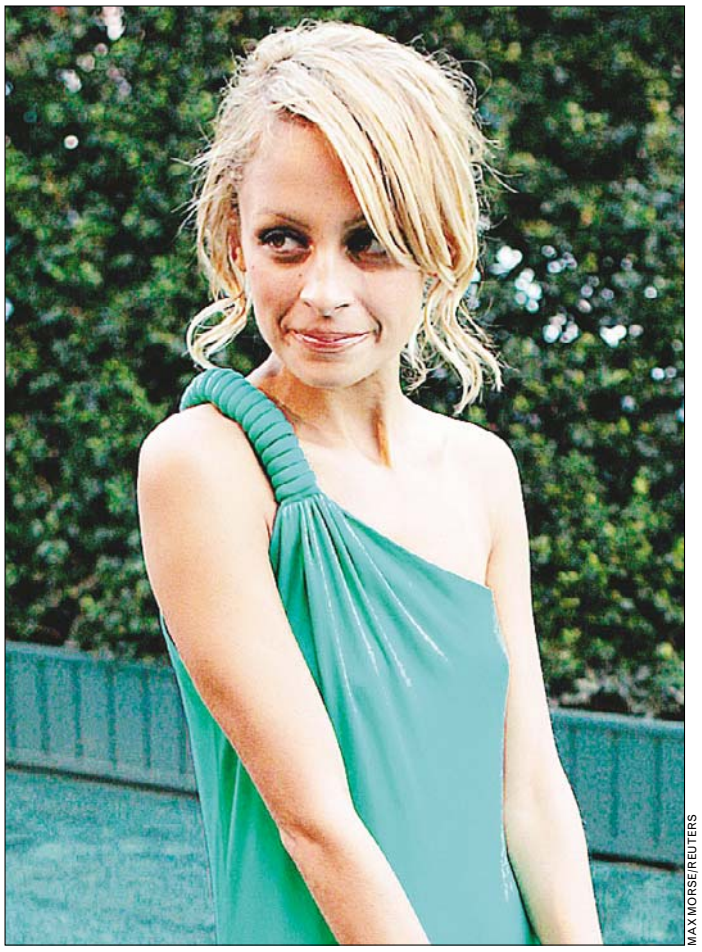
Mariah Finds Comfort In Fickle Approval of Peers

MARIAH CAREY continued her journey along the comeback trail Tuesday, heading into the 33rd annual American Music Awards with a leading four nominations, including two for her chart-topping album "The Emancipation of Mimi." Green Day, 50 Cent and Kelly Clarkson had three nominations each. Other multiple nominees included the Black Eyed Peas, Destiny's Child, Eminem, Fantasia, Toby Keith, Tim McGraw and Gretchen Wilson. (AP)

SIGH

Carrot Top Could Guest Star And They'd Still Watch

JAMES WOODS will guest star on "E.R." as Dr. Nate Lennox, a patient who is suffering from Lou Gehrig's disease. His character is a former professor of Dr. Abby Lockhart, played by Maura Tierney. The episode featuring Woods will air Feb. 2, the network said. (AP)



MAX MORSE/REUTERS

UNHEALTHY

'Daddy, Make My Excuses for Me?'

The stress of **NICOLE RICHIE**'s expanding career is most likely the reason for her shrinking dress size, said father Lionel. "I know what's happening with her right now, she's a nervous wreck," Richie says of Nicole, who was heavier when she co-starred with Paris Hilton on "The Simple Life." "She's like her father, you can either blow up or you can shrink away," he told "Access Hollywood" in an interview that aired Monday night. (AP)

LOVEFESTS

Oh, Just Get A Room, You Two

The cold war between **OPRAH WINFREY** and David Letterman has thawed to the point where Winfrey has accepted Letterman's invitation to appear on the "Late Show" on Dec. 1. Winfrey's appearance will coincide with opening night of the Broadway musical "The Color Purple," which she is producing. "What a big night that is going to be — not only for us, not only for Oprah, but for Broadway," Letterman said. "You have the big 'Color Purple' Broadway opening, and then right across the street here in this theater, you have Oprah appearing here. ... It's a street of dreams." (AP)

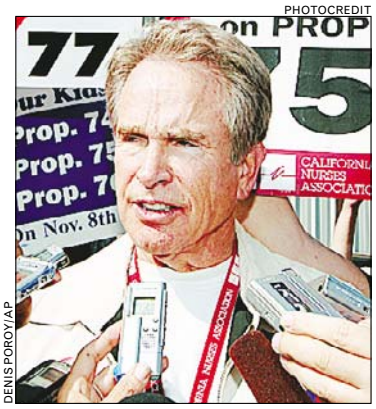
Dave Letterman is now one of her Favorite Things.

WHATEVER

Because Giving Piles of Money Qualifies You to Run

A poll released Tuesday rates the candidates for seven California offices next year. Rob Reiner and **WARREN BEATTY** made the list as potential Democratic nominees to challenge Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, though neither has said he intends to run. About two-thirds of the voters surveyed said they already had opinions about Reiner and Beatty, but most viewed the two men unfavorably. (AP)

PHOTOCREDIT



DENIS POROY/AP

A distinguished-looking, Democratic dill pickle could get votes in California.

JOHN SMOCK/AP

BEWITCHING GAZE

Cambodia Lies Powerless Before Her

ANGELINA JOLIE has received a Cambodian passport after being made a citizen of the country, an associate said Tuesday. The Hollywood star can use it when she visits the native land of her adopted son, Maddox, said Stephan Bognar, executive director of the Maddox Jolie project in Cambodia. The project promotes wildlife conservation and community development in a former Khmer Rouge guerrilla stronghold in northwestern Cambodia. (AP)

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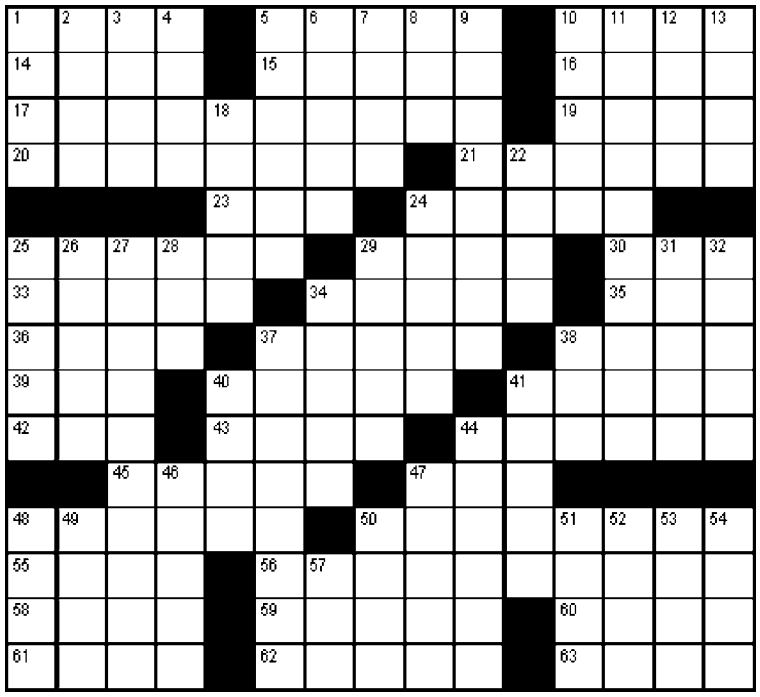
LOOK out

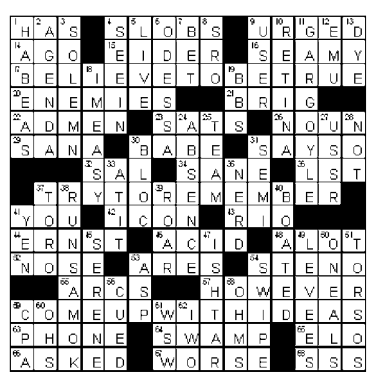
Sitting Pretty | *Edited by Timothy E. Parker*



ACROSS
1 Frequent estate sharers, briefly
5 Shilling's five
10 Recipe direction
14 Headpiece?
15 Intestinal part
16 Word with sock or jerk
17 Where a loyal friend may sit
19 Not fully shut
20 Cuticle problem
21 Part of a round trip
23 Zamboni's surface
24 Sought the bull's-eye
25 Uneven, as a performance
29 Oppositional prefix
30 Hump-shouldered animal
33 Brit that made heads roll
34 Glazed item, informally
35 Election-year ammo, maybe
36 Pretentiously cultured
37 They circulate west of the Urals
38 Group of elk
39 Ultimate degree
40 Kind of hose
41 Large house
42 It starts many titles
43 On the Atlantic, e.g.
44 Trot relative
45 Moves erratically, as a butterfly
47 365 billion days, astronomically
48 Learns little by little
50 Not of this world
55 Polaroid camera inventor
56 Where those who have it made sit
58 Twice removed from thrice
59 Blood drive contributor
60 Times of note
61 "___ there, done that"
62 Blank tapes?
63 Charitable collections

DOWN
1 Exiled Irani
2 Very small amount
3 ___ Mawr College
4 Cuddle and kiss, London-style
5 Buccaneer's crime
6 Dinsmore of children's books
7 Diamond or Simon
8 Ruminant fare
9 Honorably retired professor
10 It needed a key, once
11 Where someone in a robe sits
12 Dread
13 Graceful sea bird
18 Oneness
22 Discharge
24 Get at
25 Not-so-common contraction
26 Australian metropolis
27 Where the undecided sit
28 Subject to hardship
29 Heart's mainline
31 Suckle
32 Moo juice container
34 Desert mounds
37 Upper or Lower, in New York
38 Chinese dynasty 2,000 years ago
40 Major nuisance
41 Grooms' concerns
44 Stick together
46 Loaded down
47 Spirit of a culture
48 Shapeless mass
49 It may be fast, slow or in a bowling alley
50 Peak in Sicily
51 Mama, to Zeus
52 One not yet a marquis
53 First of all
54 More alternative
57 Neither companion

Yesterday's Solution



Today in History

1765 Frederick County, Md., repudiated the British Stamp Act.

1945 Most U.S. wartime rationing of foods, including meat and butter, ended.

1936 Life, the magazine created by Henry R. Luce, was first published.

1963 President Johnson proclaimed Nov. 25 a day of national mourning following the assassination of President Kennedy.

1971 The People's Republic of China was seated in the U.N. Security Council.

1980 Some 4,800 people were killed by a series of earthquakes that devastated southern Italy.

Su|do|ku | © *Puzzles by Pappocom*

Degree of Difficulty: MEDIUM

Fill in the boxes so that each row, column and 3-by-3 square includes the digits 1 through 9. For solution, tips and computer program, see www.sudoku.com

	6	4				5	9	
5	9		3		4		1	6
	7			3			5	
		3				2		
	8			6			7	
1	4		8		5		3	7
	3	7				6	2	

Yesterday's Solution

5	9	7	4	2	8	1	6	3
3	6	4	1	9	7	5	8	2
8	1	2	6	3	5	4	7	9
9	7	1	8	4	2	3	5	6
4	5	3	7	1	6	2	9	8
6	2	8	3	5	9	7	4	1
2	8	5	9	7	1	6	3	4
7	3	9	2	6	4	8	1	5
1	4	6	5	8	3	9	2	7

Can't get enough Sudoku? Find another Sudoku puzzle in the Comics section of the Post every Sunday and in the Style section every Monday through Saturday.

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